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# LIGHT & DARK




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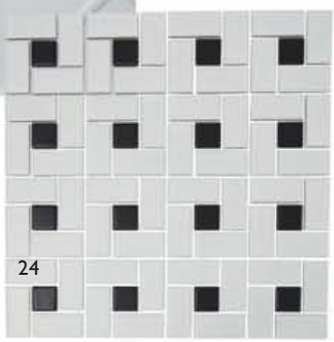
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# *All white now, white on time... So many puns, so little time!*

**My family home** was full of colour. Dianne Bradley colour-coordinates her world within an inch of its life and she was always trying new, increasingly bold combinations. So it's surprising (or perhaps not at all) that my home has a clean white palette (with a dash of pink and black). Those who've watched my home renovation unfold on Instagram will know that I painted my walls white (Haymes Modesty White), as well as my floors, almost the second I moved in. I love my blank canvas!

This issue, we celebrate white homes, and throw out the notion that it's only for OCD couples (does anyone remember that *Absolutely Fabulous* episode?). Anecdotally, we know Australians love a clean fresh palette, but worry about its practicality. Well, turn to page 80 to see some real-life families living with variations on the theme. By adding texture, a highlight colour or contrasting black, you can give it a personal twist.

One of the best ways to give your home character is with a rug. It's one of the questions I get asked most often: "How do I choose a rug and where do I buy one?" On page 54, we give you a guide to what size and how to use a rug to create a zone, then go to insideout.com.au for our round-up on the best places to look. It was my favourite part of decorating my place, but I'm already set to have another go.

Before you head off into the bright white yonder, don't forget to take a look at our 'Which Chair Are You?' feature on page 67. We've always liked the idea that each of us is a bit like a design classic and, in this story we take a look at personality traits that go with each. I feel I'm a mix of all of them, but if I HAD to choose, I'd say I'm a Wishbone. Although, at my core, I'm a bit more Tolix... What about you?

Get your friends to take the quiz and find out which chairs suit their personalities – visit insideout.com.au.

Claire



Turn to page 67 to find out which chair you are.



## style target

**Love these** sweet arrows? I have a set up on my wall at home, but just by subscribing, you'll receive your own Rainy Sunday copper arrow (rainysunday.com.au)! Turn to page 64 for our exclusive offer.




**WRITE IN TO WIN** You could win a 'Bang Bang' pegboard, valued at $349, from George & Willy. Visit georgeandwilly.com for a look. **TO ENTER** Tell us, in 25 words or fewer, what would you store and display on your 'Bang Bang' pegboard? Send entries (with your contact details) to 'Inside Out George & Willy' competition, Locked Bag 5030, Alexandria NSW 2015 or email insideout@newsltd.com.au.

PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAIT) NIGEL LOUGH. (CHAIR) DEREK SWALWELL. HAIR & MAKEUP: SAM POWELL. STYLING: (CHAIR) HEATHER NETTE KING. COMPETITION TERMS AND CONDITIONS: ENTRIES OPEN 23/07/15 AT 00:01 AEST AND CLOSE 26/08/15 AT 23:59 AEST. AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER ONLY. ONE WINNER DETERMINED ON 31/08/15 AT 16:00 AEST AT NEWSLIFEMEDIA PTY LTD, LEVEL 1, 2 HOLT STREET, SURRY HILLS, NSW 2010. WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED BY TELEPHONE AND IN WRITING. THIS IS A GAME OF SKILL AND CHANCE PLAYS NO PART IN DETERMINING THE WINNER. TOTAL PRIZE POOL VALUED AT $349. FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS AVAILABLE AT INSIDEOUTCOM.AU AND SEARCH FOR 'TERMS AUGUST ISSUE'. PRIVACY POLICY IS AVAILABLE AT NEWSCORPAUSTRALIAPRIVACY.COM

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avxhome.se



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## our cover look

This month's cover is brought to life thanks to variety of textures working together. The overarching white palette creates a fresh setting, letting the warming qualities of the bare bricks, timber tones and soft furnishings shine. White-framed windows define this open-plan living space and act as a backdrop to enhance the sense of light and air. Turn to page 16 for details.

**Photography: Felix Forest**
**Styling: Claire Delmar**

HOME TREND

# get the cover look

## Warm up an open all-white living space with a mix of inviting texture and elegant designs

STYLING **CLAIRE DELMAR** PHOTOGRAPHY **FELIX FOREST**




**1.** Rubn 'Lektor' **floor lamp**, $990, Fred International, fredishere.com.au. **2.** Natural **reindeer hide**, $550, The Design Hunter, thedesignhuntershop.com.au. **3.** Swedese 'Desiree' **chair** with cushion, $880, Fred International, as before. **4.** Wood-fired stoneware **bowl** by Jann Kesby, $120, Chinaclay, chinaclay.com.au. **5.** 'Bronte' **sofa**, $2395, Urban Couture Design + Homewares, urbancouture.com.au. **6.** Porcelain Bear **vase**, $337, Jardan, jardan.com.au. **7.** Vintage Japanese ceramic 'Mum' **dish** with crawled glaze, $320, Planet, planetfurniture.com.au. **8.** 'Flocca' Euro **pillowcases**, $85 each, Hale Mercantile Co., halemercantileco.com. **9.** Gan 'Knitted' **stool**, $945, Hub Furniture, hubfurniture.com.au. **10. 11. & 12.** 'Clean & Protect' interior low sheen **paints** in White Beam, Smiley White and White Comfort, $55.50/4L, British Paints, britishpaints.com.au. **13.** Swedese 'Drum' **side table**, from $875.60, Fred International, as before.

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**CHECK US OUT**

## here's what you'll find **this month** at our *online home*



### how to patch a wall

Check out our series of how-to videos with builder Wayd Munro.

### renovation tips

No matter what stage you're at with your reno – from planning to the finishing touches – you'll find expert advice, inspiring images and wisdom from fellow renovators.

### product guides

Jump into our shop section for the latest and greatest products for all your home's zones – indoors and out! Plus, retail-therapy options.

### top 10 white paints

Making it work with white is all in the details. Choose the perfect paint to make your home shine!

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**behind the scenes** Take a look at our style editor Jessica Hanson putting together the 'Best Buys: Handles & Knobs' story on page 49. Log onto our Facebook page to see more and stay in the loop of everything *Inside Out*.



**bonus photographs** Did you like our overseas inspiration story on page 106? You can check out more images from this gorgeous Finnish home on our site, as photographed by Krista Keltanen/Living Inside.



**pinboard inspiration** Pick up ideas from back issues on our Pinterest boards. Pictured is our 'Spare Change' story from the September 2013 edition. Styling by Julia Green. Photography by Armelle Habib.



**reader Instagram** Reader Sally Walvin enjoyed spending an afternoon reading break with our recent issue. Follow her on @creatingstyle. We'd love to see your Instagrams! Our hashtag is #insideoutmag.

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## expert advice

Our expert architect Andrew Benn on the things you'll need to think about before shelling out on stained-glass windows.

## #iohideandseat

Do you love a puzzle? Just for a bit of fun, it's the interiors version of *Where's Wally?* with mini iconic designer chairs. Can you find the one hidden on our website? **Share a shot on Instagram, tag @insideoutmag and use the hashtag #iohideandseat to show us where you spotted it!**



## head to our guides section for *8 styling tips for your bedside table* + clever ways to create a shared kids' room

PHOTOGRAPHY: (WHITE PAINTS) SHARYN CAIRNS, (VIDEO) NIGEL LOUGH, (EXPERT ADVICE) DAN DUCHARS, (STYLING TIPS) ARMELLE HABIB, (BEHIND THE SCENES) SAM McADAM-COOPER. STYLING: (WHITE PAINTS) LARA HUTTON, (STYLING TIPS) HEATHER NETTE KING

## out and about with *Inside Out*



It's an office favourite for lunch – **@mumstablesh** in Sydney's Surry Hills also wows in the wall-art stakes.



Our style editor **@jessicahansonstylist** has had a baby girl! She'll be one stylish baby with such design-savvy parents.


# INSIDE OUT

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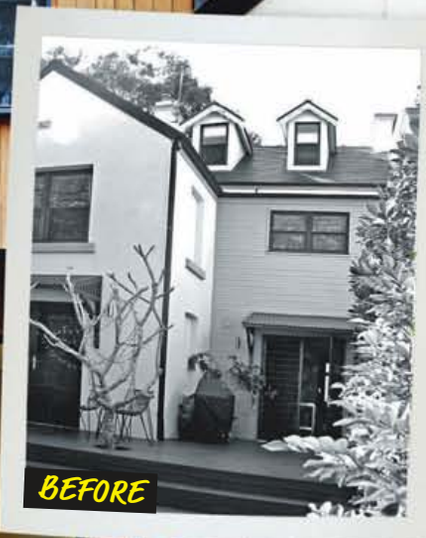
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things we love



## copper crush

### Lift the look of your dining zone with a hint of glimmer

The copper trend continues to reign supreme and the 'Lucy' chair makes a fitting queen. Capturing the perfect balance between hero piece and bit-player, the fine-lined silhouette of this galvanised-iron dining chair ensures that it won't overwhelm a space, but the bright copper tone packs a punch in the personality department. Group a few around your table and add seat pads to up the comfort factor. It's official – we love 'Lucy'!

'Lucy' metal-plated **dining chair** by Gaurav Nanda, $550, Own World, ownworld.com.au.

PHOTOGRAPHY: AMANDA RINGSTAD

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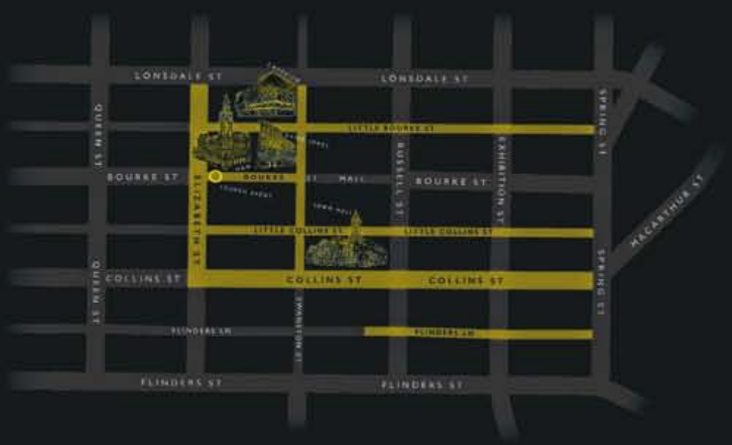
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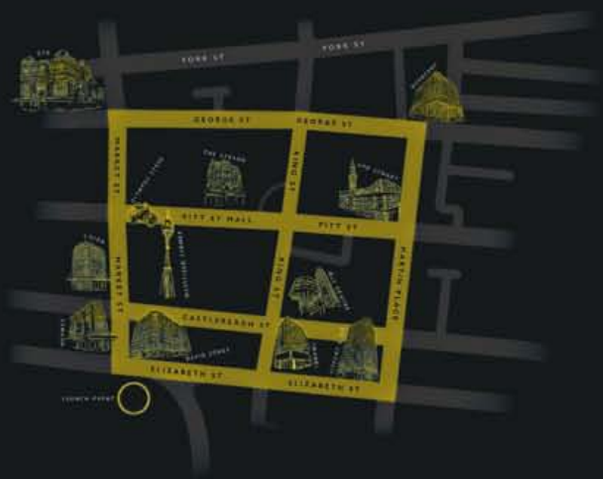
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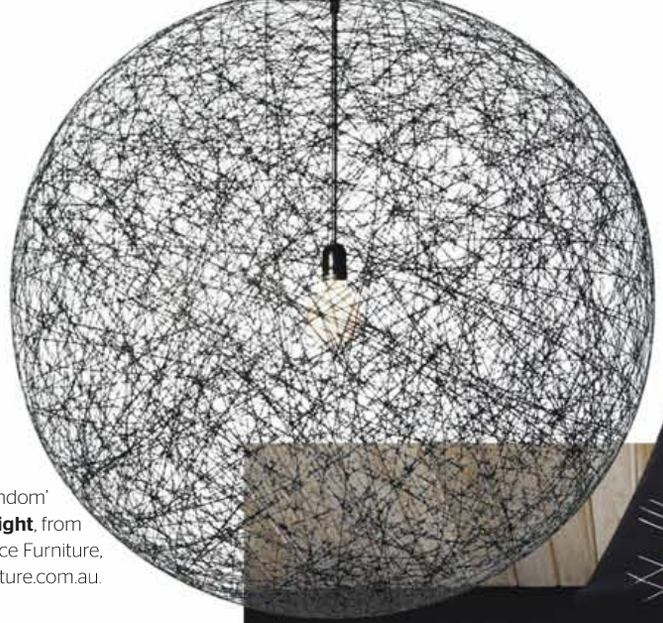
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Moooi 'Random' **pendant light**, from $1285, Space Furniture, spacefurniture.com.au.

'Björnloka Figur' **cushion cover**, $5, IKEA, ikea.com.au.



'Clean & Protect' interior low sheen **paints** in Passionfruit Poppy, $59.90/4L, and Arctic Grey, $55.50/4L, British Paints, britishpaints.com.au.



Icelandic **sheepskin**, $229, Hides Of Excellence, hidesofexcellence.com.au.



Menu 'Fire Bucket' **oil lamp**, $144.95, Design Mode International, designmode.com.au.





PP Møbler 'Circle' **chair**, $12,256, Cult, cultdesign.com.au.



'Geo' alpaca **throw**, $330, Scout Lifestyle, scoutlifestyle.com.



11-litre grey **glass bottle**, $89, HK Living Australia, hkliving.com.au.

PHOTOGRAPHY: (MAIN) GAELLE LE BOULICAUT. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

**HOME TREND**

# Nordic cabin

## Combat the cold with cosy textures and a sleek palette, plus one punchy highlight

PRODUCT SOURCING **JOSEPH GARDNER**



'Montone' **tiles** in Nero, $82/sqm, Perini Tiles, perini.com.au.

Design House Stockholm 'Björk Home' **storage bag**, $399.95, Vincent, vincentdesign.com.au.



# what's on our radar

## Discover each month what's hot, what's on its way out and what designs continue to endure and inspire



TRENDING

### What's in... colour blocking

We've all played Tetris with palettes before, but you'll find a more sophisticated version of colour blocking in pieces like the Moroso 'Ottoman' sofa by Scholten & Baijings, POA. It showed at Milan and will be available later this year at Hub Furniture, hubfurniture.com.au.

### On its way out feature walls

One wall doesn't cut it anymore. Be brave and commit to the whole room, or pick another form to make a statement. There are more graceful ways that won't require regret-fuelled repainting.



### THE COOLEST THING WE'VE SEEN LATELY

An old railway yard is the last place you'd expect to see a floral installation, but there are many well-picked blooms at florist Doctor Lisa Cooper's new Doctor Cooper Studio at Sydney's Carriageworks. Visit doctorcooper.com.au.



CULT CLASSIC

### 2015 ANNIVERSARY BOTTLES BY TAPIO WIRKKALA

**The form:** Mouth-blown glass bottles in two sizes and four colours. **What makes them special:** Wirkkala is one of the most well-known figures in modern Finnish design. His work was varied, incorporating everything from stamp design to timber pieces and ceramics to cutlery – he designed more than 400 glass items for Iittala alone. Perhaps most recognised for his Finlandia vodka bottle, glassware for Iittala and 'Bolle' vessels for Venini, he received numerous awards including Grand Prix medals at the Milan Triennale in 1951, 1954 and 1960, and the gold medal in 1960. A limited-edition series of Wirkkala's bottles hasz been released by Iittala, commemorating 100 years since his birth, with only 2015 of each piece made. **Expect to pay:** From $470 each. **Buy at:** Design Mode International, designmode.com.au.

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people attended Workshopped.

This year's renowned local design exhibition is on from August 6-23 in Sydney. Visit workshopped.com.au for all the details.

**See the work of the Victorian Craft Award finalists, *victoriancraftaward.org.au.***

EDITED BY LEE TRAN LAM. WORDS: (CULT CLASSIC) DAVID HARRISON. SOURCING: (TRENDING) JOSEPH GARDNER. PHOTOGRAPHY: (INSTAGRAM) LEE TRAN LAM

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3 OF A KIND

# books on colour

## From understated interiors to vivid visions, these guides will inspire you to decorate with colour

WORDS **LEE TRAN LAM**










### Colour.

**By Abigail Ahern with photography by Graham Atkins-Hughes**

"I am obsessed with colour since it's the biggest, most game-changing thing you can do to any room, ever!" says stylist Abigail Ahern. "After I developed my own paint range, I started to get a lot more confident in taking risks with colour and wanted to share my insights." Her book shows ways to tap into the transformative power of palettes and complete looks with focal points and finishing details. "The most life-changing thing you can ever do to any room is paint your ceiling the same colour as your walls. No-one believes me until they try and then the emails flood in," she says. "Walls look taller, grander; you're almost creating infinitely blurring walls into ceilings and oddly enough, the eye goes to what's in the room, and that gets to look cooler also. Win win!"

*$45, Quadrille/Hardie Grant Books*






### Monochrome Home

**By Hilary Robertson with photography by Pia Ulin**

"If you ever visit a Scandinavian country or look at their magazines, you'll notice immediately that they eschew colour most of the time," says the author. It's an approach that creates a restful feel. Hilary's book is full of examples that show how this look is anything but limited. "I find that editing the palette you work with makes both decorating and dressing much easier and there's infinite variety even in black, white and grey tones," she says. "I've painted my entry hall in black, white and navy: one wall is two-thirds navy and the lower third is black. It's subtle, but super chic. My 12-year-old son loves it."

*$55, Ryland, Peters & Small/ Hardie Grant Books*









### A Colourful Home

**By Susan Hable with photography by Rinne Allen**

The author knows a lot about working with tones and shades: her design firm has 15 years of interiors experience and she sits on the board of the Colour Association of the United States, which forecasts trending tones. Accordingly, her book highlights how to work with various shades, from 'citrus' to 'salt'. Susan is a cheerleader for dramatic palette effects: "One of my favourite rooms is my laundry, because the colour of the walls wraps around the ceiling and the woodwork and engulfs the room." She understands that not everyone shares such a daring approach to flirting with palettes, though. "Using colour is very personal so I'd suggest taking baby steps if you are more reserved," she says. "The nice thing to remember is that paint isn't permanent and you can always change it!"

*$49.95, Chronicle Books/ Hardie Grant Books*

PHOTOGRAPHY: (BOOK SPREADS) SAM McADAM-COOPER



avxhome.se




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BLOGGER PROFILE

# a subtle revelry



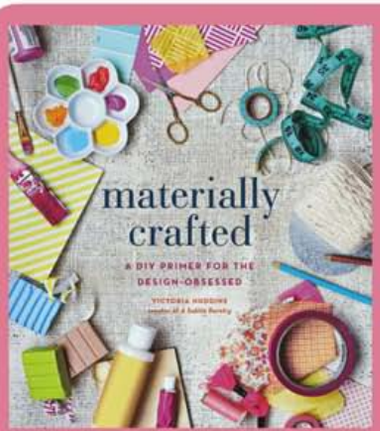
**THE STATS** **What:** A Subtle Revelry **Who:** Victoria Hudgins, party starter **Where:** asubtlerevelry.com **Started:** 2010 **You'll find:** Victoria and her husband are fixated with finding revelry in moments. "Every day, I answer the question 'How can we take this cake, table, day, etc., and make it festive and fun?'" says Victoria.



**Craft is obviously a very big part of your life. Was this always the case?** Yes, I remember crafting and loving it at a very young age, much like my daughter now. I was the one in charge of all the crafting at school, and even before starting the blog I would often spend days and days crafting for parties we threw.

**Do you ever enlist your kids on crafting duties?** Soon I will definitely have a mini assistant. My daughter loves crafting and each week she'll make projects, begging me to post them on the blog. Sometimes I let her get in on the mess, like the 'brushstroke' balloons (right).






**What inspired you to create your book, *Materially Crafted* ($29.99, Stewart Tabori & Chang/Thames & Hudson)?** Over the years, I noticed lots of questions on basic crafting processes. Readers would feel frustrated when trying tutorials online – they might not understand a cut that a project needed etc. I wanted to help them.

**Tell us about your home town.** I live in Reno, Nevada, and work from home. We shoot our photography at home and have a dedicated office space. So far, it has worked well for us. I love being able to be home with the kids and also maintain a site that I love so much. It seems the best of all worlds to me! There's lots of nature, as I'm close to Lake Tahoe. The relaxed environment allows me to be creative in my work. As Gustave Flaubert said: "Be regular and orderly in your life, so that you may be violent and original in your work."



**You share your birthday with your husband – and you were born within half an hour of each other! Does this make celebrating doubly fun?** Yes, we have a blast! We started a tradition of making birthday 'un-lists' – after everyone's life-lists began coming out a few years ago. Instead of listing things we haven't done yet, we take note every year of all the amazing things we've done the year before, lessons we've learnt and why it's awesome to be getting older.

**What started A Subtle Revelry?** I've always loved celebrating and sharing that passion in tidbits was too enticing not to try. When my husband and I started, it was kind of an experiment.



PHOTOGRAPHY: VICTORIA HUDGINS FOR A SUBTLE REVELRY

**For a list of some of our favourite blogs, visit our Pinterest page at *pinterest.com/insideoutpins*.**

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The body of work by Maricor/ Maricar **(inset)** ranges from embroidered and paper illustrations **(centre)** to custom lettering for Hong Kong airport **(top right)**.



**PROFILE**

# maricor/maricar

## Twins Maricor and Maricar Manalo run a studio that's tied by a not-so-common thread: hand-embroidered art

WORDS **LEE TRAN LAM**

**What was your childhood like?** Dad was the youngest of 11, while our mum had six brothers and sisters and they were brought up quite modestly. I think because of that, they raised us similarly. We had to be creative with the toys we were given, or else make up the rest. I remember we used to play our own analogue version of Tetris – we'd take turns to hand random blocks to the other to place on a large board. We also made our own diorama dollhouses and had many failed attempts to make our own crystals using crayon shavings mixed with water and glitter.

**Tell us about your workspace.** Our main space is out of Maricar's home in Sydney. We work from a large desk that we hope to move into a dedicated room soon, as it tends to take over their house (sorry Maricar!). We collect photos, sketches and objects that inspire or remind us of places we've visited and have them all over the desk and house. We have a pinboard that is sadly neglected, mainly because it's hard for us to reach!

**Did you always know that you wanted to collaborate professionally?** We never really thought there was another option other than working together. We went to the same schools, right from kindergarten through to university, so working together was the next stage. After surviving our university major project together, we knew we could handle working together professionally.

**How did you both start getting creative with using thread?** We fell into embroidery via an animation project. It was a music video clip with a brief to be colourful, fun and playful. After that, we focused more on hand-drawn illustration and lettering. Maricar decided to embroider a song lyric she'd had stuck in her head for a while. The song was by The Unicorns and the lyric was "hungry cougars are surrounding me", but she had interpreted it as "hungry colours are surrounding me" which we adopted as a studio mantra when we first started Maricor/ Maricar. So it was all serendipitous – we started embroidering lettering for fun, inspired by a misheard lyric and the clash of colour and texture which has driven our work. It was a happy accidental discovery.

**Is it hard working with needles? Have you ended up with any injuries?** Thankfully, we haven't stabbed each other yet, but we've had a few near misses when we've worked simultaneously on a large piece. And we've somehow managed to lose needles in our hair and on our chairs, but we're more careful these days now that there's a toddler around. Some of our larger pieces will have at least five needles on the go so we make sure to keep track of how many sharps we have out at the start and end of each day.

**For more details, *maricormaricar.com*.**



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IN DETAIL

# timber panelling

## Love the look of wood panelling as a feature? Architect Andrew Benn gives us the lowdown



Used as panelling, timber creates a nice combination of clean modern lines but with warmth and a unique grain. Whether you use it as an extended bedhead (as seen here), recessed living area shelving or as a feature wall detail, the raw appeal of wood shines through. Even better, timber is a renewable resource and a material with a low-embodied energy (meaning the energy used to produce it is minimal).

**Is timber panelling a good fit in all houses?** It works well in most homes, but it particularly well in old masonry houses, where its grain sits comfortably alongside the original building while maintaining a distinction between old and new.

**Should you avoid using timber in some spaces?** Dampness will rot most timbers, so it's best not to use it in continually wet areas where it touches the ground.

**What style considerations do you need to think about?** If you're using timber over large areas, avoid varieties with very saturated colours as the impact on the space will be too great. Also, make sure the variety you select complements your existing timber furniture. Another aspect to think about is featuring the end grains of the timber – they can add a beautiful layer of detail.

$$$ The cost of panelling comes down to the timber used. Consider timber cladding from Boral Timber, $125/sqm, excluding installation, boral.com.au/timber.

Some timbers stand the test of time better than others. Cedar doesn't warp or split like some varieties and turns a soft grey if exposed to UV light. You'll need to maintain timber by keeping it dry and frequently oiling it – but oiling is much less work than painting.

## sources

**VIC**
**Built By Wilson**
**(work pictured left)**
Geelong, 0419 139 324,
builtbywilson.com.

**NSW**
**Join Construction**
Cronulla, (02) 8544 0656,
joinconstructions.com.au.

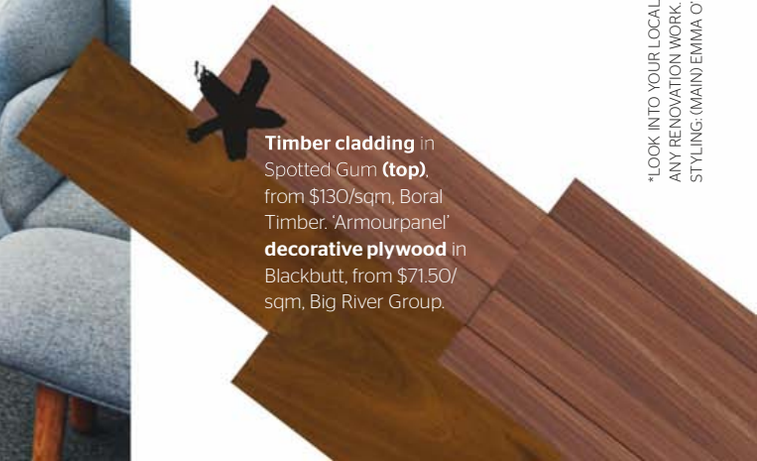
**QLD**
**Cedar Sales**
Ipswich, 1800 156 455,
cedarsales.com.au.

**SA**
**Australian Timbers**
Trinity Gardens, (08) 8332 2666,
australiantimbers.com.

**WA**
**Austim**
Landsdale, (08) 9409 6111,
austim.com.au.

**TAS**
**Robec Building**
Rosny Park, 0409 427 337,
robecbuilding.com.au.





**Timber cladding** in Spotted Gum **(top)**, from $130/sqm, Boral Timber. 'Armourpanel' **decorative plywood** in Blackbutt, from $71.50/sqm, Big River Group.

*LOOK INTO YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS BEFORE STARTING ANY RENOVATION WORK. PHOTOGRAPHY: (MAIN) NIKOLE RAMSAY; (PORTRAIT) NIGEL LOUGH. STYLING: (MAIN) EMMA O'MEARA. ARTWORK BY LOLA DONOGHUE

**Value Collection**
Street Scene, Grey



**Comfort Collection**
Fashion Avenue, Light Brown



**Luxury Collection**
Tidal, Crucial



**Performance Collection**
Newport, Crème

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# ask an expert

## Each issue, we'll find stylish solutions to all your decorating and design dilemmas from those in the know



**Lisa Koehler** is the interior stylist on our renovation specialists Panel (for more on the Panel, turn to page 124). Here, she offers her ideas on creating a study in a small spot.

***Q I have a long narrow space on top of my staircase. How do I build in a desk, shelves and storage without rolling my chair down the stairs?***
*@happinessonrickard via Instagram*

Safety is the most important element to consider in this design. With such a tight space, I'd go with custom joinery, so you can design a desk that is shorter in depth (around 500mm) with an additional 1800mm for your chair to function safely and to allow general circulation for the stairs. Use a chair with stationary legs instead of wheels for safety reasons, such as the 'Adelaide' chair from BoConcept (pictured, from $359, boconcept.com.au) or the 'Bay' chair from Jardan (from $819, jardan.com.au).





***Q What type of carpet should I use for bedrooms?***
*@emilyamccutcheon via Instagram*

"Choose dark shades in a plush or twist for cosiness and a sense of luxury," says **John Harrison of Feltex Carpets.** "The Redbook green 'Garden Reflections' carpet in Quicksilver (pictured, from $70/sqm installed, feltex.com) is a good example. If you're after the illusion of space, lighter colours are great for accentuating the sun's vibrancy. For kids' rooms, use bright, textured carpets that bring energy and promote creativity, or choose cool colours for calm."




**designer tip**
For a minimalist feel, contrast layers of texture with clean geometric lines

***Q How do you choose and place furniture in a small open-plan kitchen/living/dining space? Our room is not working.***
*@al08 via Instagram*

Rearrange your furniture first. "Try a few variations and live with each layout for a day or two to get a feel for which is working best and provides the most practical solution for how you use the room," says **Rebecca Astrinakis of Nathan + Jac**. "Once layout is resolved, maximise space with multi-use pieces, such as a bench that doubles as a coffee table or as additional seating (like the 'Gus' transit bench, $890, nathanjac.com.au). With small spaces, it's best to keep colour to a minimum and surfaces free of clutter to create a more spacious feel. For a relaxed and comfy look, try something a little Scandinavian and stick to neutral tones and natural elements. For walls, go for a subtle grey to add depth and make the space feel open without being cold."



***Q What's a good pendant lamp to hang over a dining table in a room with low ceilings?***
*@jenna_rehder via Instagram*

Try a shorter pendant style, such as the 'Croft' (above) or 'Lunar Bowl' lights ($169 each, beacon lighting.com.au), suggests **Denise Hammond, product knowledge specialist at Beacon Lighting**. "You'll also want to find a length and a height that's right for you and your family. Experiment with a piece of cord tied to an empty milk carton over the table as a height guide for the electrician. A general rule is to ensure the bottom of the light rests 80cm above the surface of the table, which allows a beneficial amount of light to eat or work by."

**Send us your questions – email *insideout@newsltd.com.au* or via Facebook or Instagram.**

EDITED BY LEE TRAN LAM. PHOTOGRAPHY: (MAIN) EVE WILSON FOR NATHAN + JAC, NATHANJAC.COM.AU



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# MEAT MASTER

**CHEF'S CHOICE:** *Warialda Belted Galloways beef*



Beef rib-eye on the bone with burnt butter and horseradish cream.

*"The rich flavour from the grass feeding and dry ageing makes this beef unique."*

Jake Kellie has worked for the stars of the cooking world. From an apprenticeship at Matt Moran's Aria Restaurant, Jake moved to Gordon Ramsay's Maze restaurant in Melbourne before heading overseas to work at Brett Graham's two-Michelin-starred restaurant The Ledbury. Now settled in Melbourne, Jake works at Scott Pickett's Estelle Bistro, which has a coveted chef's hat. This fine venue is in the go-to destination for serious dining in north Melbourne. Scott developed an appreciation for produce while growing up on his family's farm in South Australia, and he has nurtured this passion in his staff. The menu changes with the seasons to reflect the produce available. "We have an abundance of quince right now, so we're doing a lot with them," says Jake. "We get a delivery of fresh fruit and vegies each week from Glenora Farm, a few hours out of Melbourne." The menu at Estelle Bistro is meaty. Literally. "We source our beef from Warialda Belted Galloways, who have a paddock-to-plate approach to cattle breeding that we like. Their grass-fed, dry-aged beef is delicious."

A large oven can accommodate big cuts of meat, so you can provide a hearty feast for friends.

**JAKE KELLIE**
Estelle Bistro, Melbourne, Vic; estellebistro.com
For the recipe, visit: hn.com.au/prideandproduce



3

4

## *Roast, grill, saute, simmer and braise*

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# GARDEN VARIETY

**CHEF'S CHOICE:** *Otway shiitake mushrooms*



Shiitake mushrooms and hazelnuts with brown butter.

*"The raw shiitake soaks up the warm brown butter sauce like a sponge."*

"My inspiration comes from everywhere. I'm not bound by rules or tradition when it comes to cooking," says Mitch Orr, the chef at Acme in Sydney's Rushcutters Bay. This is evident in the menu. From macaroni with guanciale and egg yolk to spaghetti with fish balls and kimchi, Acme has set a new trend in the world of hip eating venues. Acme has been labelled as a pasta joint, but don't go expecting traditional Italian fare. The mix of European and Asian-inspired flavours sets the dishes apart. Mitch, who was named Best Young Chef by the *Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide* in 2010, grew up in the western suburbs of Sydney in a very multicultural and diverse environment. "This shows through in the person I am today, in what I like to eat and the things I now cook." Acme began when four friends who worked in hospitality, Andy Emerson, Cam Fairbairn, Mitch Orr and Ed Loveday (hence Acme), got together to combine their talent and create the restaurant they would like to go to. "It's all about being casual, loud and fun. Somewhere you want to hang out," says Mitch.

High-quality small appliances are always a chef's best friend when it comes to food prep.

**MITCH ORR**
Acme, Sydney, NSW;
weareacme.com.au
For the recipe,
visit: hn.com.au/
prideandproduce

# *Blitz, chop, slice and dice*

**5. TEFAL CUISINE COMPANION, $1,699 (FE800A60TPK)** This all-in-one kitchen wonder machine does it all. With five attachments and six automatic cooking functions, it prepares and cooks all types of dishes – from starters to desserts.

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# A GREAT CATCH

**CHEF'S CHOICE:** *Shoalhaven Seafoods snapper*



Steamed snapper, mussels, clams and kipflers with citrus and fennel sauce.

**JOHN EVANS**
South on Albany, Berry, NSW; southonalbany.com.au
For the recipe, visit: hn.com.au/prideandproduce

*"I like that this snapper is line-caught. It feels more traditional and artisan."*

"It was our dream to have a restaurant in an area we love and can source local produce," says chef John Evans. So John and wife Sonia Greig left the successful restaurant they were running in Sydney's inner-west at the 3 Weeds Hotel and made the sea change to picturesque Berry on the NSW South Coast. With an impressive portfolio working in leading restaurants in the UK and Sydney, including Mesclun, CBD and Est, John set out to make his dream a reality with South on Albany – a true regional restaurant. The menu has a strong European influence with a local twist. "It's important in regional areas to keep small businesses going and we have a great relationship with the local growers and the food co-op. Often a farmer will give us a call and tell us they have an abundance of broad beans this week and then they drop a box at our door." The menu is constantly evolving to reflect this. "Being in the country we get to know our suppliers. We visit the farms and the wineries. There's so much fresh seafood on the South Coast, and we have the best oysters, hands down."

Steaming is a smart and easy way of cooking light, delicate seafood with great results.




10

## *Steam, grill and bake*

**10. AEG PRO COMBI STEAM OVEN, $5,499 (BS9314001M)**
The AEG steam oven has a unique cooking system which uses a combination of steam (25 per cent or 50 per cent) and hot air to slow cook, bake and grill food while bringing out the flavour and enhancing the texture. The MaxiView window is 20 per cent larger than previous models, so you can keep up with what's happening inside.

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# FROM THE SOURCE

**CHEF'S CHOICE:** *Tongola 'Zoe' goat's cheese*



Goat's cheese meringue with corn ice cream and burnt butter.

*"The tangy cheese goes beautifully with the natural sugars in the corn."*

Hidden behind a wall of massive green hedges in a tranquil country setting is Biota Dining and Rooms – a food haven with two chef's hats and boutique accommodation in the Southern Highlands, NSW. Biota is a unique concept. "I wanted to start something that had meaning and a simple, honest approach," says James Viles, award-winning chef and owner. And by supporting local farmers and growers and using seasonal artisan produce, James has created just that – 70 per cent of the dairy, meat, fruit and vegetables he uses comes from the Southern Highlands. The huge kitchen garden at Biota provides plenty of fresh produce. "We propagate everything from seed in a 30-metre polytunnel and then transplant the seedlings to three gardens on site." The menu changes with the seasons. "It's about telling the stories of our land, the seasons and the ingredients it provides us with. It's about foraging for the best produce." Offering delicacies from charcoal clams with smoked roe and spent lettuce to pasture-fed beef and chlorophyll, Biota is an ode to the seasons.

With the right appliances at hand, it's easy to create standout inspirational desserts.

**JAMES VILES**
Biota Dining and Rooms, Bowral, NSW; biotadining.com
For the recipe, visit: hn.com.au/prideandproduce

# *Grind, whip and mix*

**11. ELECTROLUX TURBOPRO HANDHELD BLENDER, $149 (ESTM6400)** Inspired by chefs, the 'TurboPro' features a mini chopper, double whisks, a turbo function, and an anti-splash design.

**12. KENWOOD MULTI PRO CLASSIC FOOD PROCESSOR, $399 (FDM785BA)** With a 3L bowl, 1.5L thermo-resistant blender and attachments to help chop, grate, knead and juice, this machine has food preparation covered.

**13. SUNBEAM CAFE SERIES® PLANETARY MIXMASTER® POWER DRIVE, $689 (MX9500R)** Features include a spring-assisted head lift and a Power Drive outlet to add accessories to your mixer, such as pasta rollers and pasta cutters.




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James Viles is the chef and owner of Biota Dining and Rooms, a restaurant in Bowral, NSW, with two chef's hats. Using fresh produce, James will teach you how to create two restaurant-quality dishes for you to enjoy with wine.

**WHERE** Harvey Norman@Domayne
84 O'Riordan St,
Alexandria, NSW
(02) 8339 7000

**WHEN** 7pm, Tuesday,
September 8

**PRICE** $75* for canapes, two courses and matching wines

**BOOK** Visit: moshtix.com.au/hnmasterclass



### MELBOURNE EVENT

**JAKE KELLIE, ESTELLE BISTRO**

Acclaimed chef Jake Kellie works at Estelle Bistro in Melbourne, where there is a strong focus on sourcing the best produce. On the night, Jake will demonstrate how to cook two special dishes for you to enjoy with wine.

**WHERE** Harvey Norman
699 Warrigal Rd,
Chadstone, Vic
(03) 9567 6666

**WHEN** 7pm, Tuesday,
September 15

**PRICE** $75* for canapes, two courses and matching wines

**BOOK** Visit: moshtix.com.au/hnmasterclass

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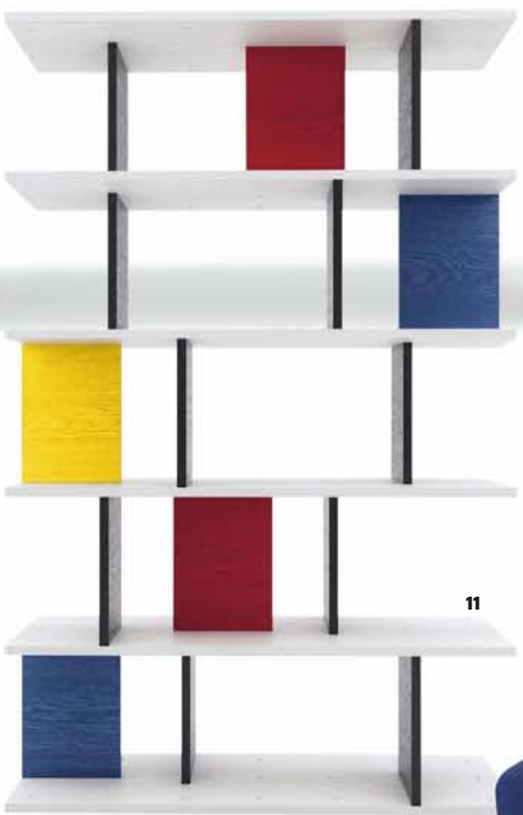
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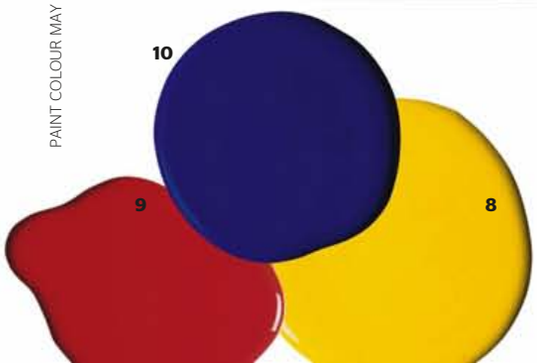

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7

COLOUR TREND

# primary

## There's nothing basic about this bold combo. Try these fresh pieces sporting classic tones

STYLING **JOSEPH GARDNER**

**1.** Moooi 'Charles' **armchair**, POA, Space Furniture, spacefurniture.com.au. **2.** Lexon 'Charlie' **umbrella** in Blue, $99.95, Vincent, vincentdesign.com.au. **3.** Northern Lighting 'Bell' **pendant light** in Mustard Yellow, $593, LightCo, lightco.com.au. **4.** 'Origami' **wall clock**, $99, BoConcept, boconcept.com.au. **5.** 'Swatch' velvet **cushion**, $84, Castle, castleandthings.com.au. **6.** 'Rasymatto' **bath towel**, $72, Marimekko, marimekko.com. **7.** Normann Copenhagen 'Era' **sofa**, from $3995, BYMR, bymr.com.au. **8. 9. & 10.** 'Clean & Protect' interior low sheen **paints** in Hide And Seek, $44.50/4L, Red Alert and Sea Shepherd, both $59.90/4L, British Paints, britishpaints.com.au. **11.** 'Pegboard' **shelving**, from $1880, Nomi, nomi.com.au. **12.** 'Stash' **desk**, $599, Blu Dot, bludot.com.au.

PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



TOP 10 PICKS

# celestial style

## Look to the stars! Draw inspiration from intergalactic pieces that won't be eclipsed any time soon

STYLING **JOSEPH GARDNER**

**1.** Tom Dixon 'Melt' **pendant light**, $1221, Dedece, dedece.com. **2.** Moroso 'Gemma' **chair**, POA, Hub Furniture, hubfurniture.com.au. **3.** Diesel Living with Seletti 'Cosmic Diner Moon' **plate**, $125, Seletti, seletti.com.au. **4.** 'Two Tone Drip' **spoon**, $72, Dinosaur Designs, dinosaurdesigns.com.au. **5.** Hay 'Plissé Nebula' **archival folder**, $73, Cult, cultdesign.com.au. **6.** Hay 'Slit' mirror **side table**, $364, Cult, as before. **7.** 'Cosmos' **cushion** by Gemma Patford Legge, $80, Such Great Heights, suchgreatheights.com. **8.** Verpan 'Cloverleaf' **sofa**, from $13,590, Space Furniture, spacefurniture.com.au. **9.** Chen + Kai 'Metamorphic Rock' **bookend**, $418, Criteria, criteriacollection.com.au. **10.** 'Tea With Georg' **espresso cup and saucer**, $130/set, Georg Jensen, georgjensen.com.

"A monochromatic palette keeps these cosmic wares grounded" JOSEPH GARDNER, MARKET EDITOR

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**BEST BUYS**

# handles & knobs

## Don't forget about the finishing details! We promise you they'll make all the difference

STYLING **JESSICA HANSON** PHOTOGRAPHY **SAM McADAM-COOPER**




**1. 'Butterfly' lacquered steel handle**, €27, Superfront, superfront.com. **2. 'Solid Arch' brass handle**, $79, A.C.V Studio, acvstudio.com. **3. 'Leather Stacked' handle with contrast stitch**, $55, MadeMeasure, mademeasure.com. **4. Concrete knob**, $5/pack of 6, Zakkia, zakkia.com.au. **5. 'Wire' lacquered brass handle**, €21, Superfront, as before. **6. 'Kaabu' handle**, from $95, Pierre And Charlotte, pierreandcharlotte.com. **7. 'Stealth' brass handle**, POA, Interia, interia.com.au. **8. 'Half Moon' Tasmanian oak handle**, $62.50, Interia, as before. **9. 'Leather 01' handle**, from $17, MadeMeasure, as before. **10. 'Double Arch' brass handle**, $95, A.C.V Studio, as before. **11. & 12. Anne Black 'Matte' knobs**, from $17 each, Elevate Design, elevatedesign.com.au. **13. 'Cup' brass handle**, $35, Rowsaan, rowsaan.com. **14. 'Curvy' American oak handle**, $93.75, Interia, as before. **15. 'U' brass handle**, $52, Rowsaan, as before. **16. Leather tab**, from $16, MadeMeasure, as before. Vitra miniature Hans Wegner 'Wishbone' **chair**, $602, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au. **Boxes**, stylist's own. Boxes in 'Zero VOC' low sheen acrylic **paints** in Lounge Lizard (far left), Orchid (back), Butter & Sugar (far right), and Pretty In Pink (bottom), $43.10/1L, Porter's Paints, porterspaints.com.

STYLING ASSISTANCE: GEORGIA HARRINGTON AND TIM CONNAH. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

BEST BUYS

# big cushions

## Treat yourself to the luxury of a large, comfy cushion in tones and materials to suit all styles

STYLING **JESSICA HANSON** PHOTOGRAPHY **SAM McADAM-COOPER**

**1. 'Phileas' floor cushion**, from $535, Anaca Studio, anacastudio.com.au. **2. Leather cushion**, $390, Sit-Ka, sit-ka.com.au. **3. 'Chloe' floor cushion**, $350, Nathan + Jac, nathanjac.com.au. **4. 'Stitch' cushion in Sunset**, $275, Jardan, jardan.com.au. **5. 'Harper' cushion in Citron**, from $85, Middle Of Nowhere, middleofnowhere.com.au. **6. 'Emily' cushion**, $115, Nathan + Jac, as before. **7. 'Stitch' cushion in Felt Dove**, $250, Jardan, as before. **8. 'Alby' floor cushion**, $584, Jardan, as before. **9. 'Harper' cushion in Peach**, from $85, Middle Of Nowhere, as before. Menu **wall clock**, $199.95, Design Mode International, designmode.com.au. *Sten Gray* A3 **print** by Lene Nørgaard, DKR$520, Propel KBH, propelkbh.dk. **Frame**, stylist's own. 'Hurdle Tray' **side table**, $220, Dowel Jones, doweljones.com. Muuto 'Bulky' **cup**, $49/pair, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au. Kemra 'Tilt Slab' **wallpaper** (on floor), $160/10m roll, Milton & King, miltonandking.com. Background in 'Interior Expressions' low sheen acrylic **paint** in Ocean Wave, $38.95/1L, Haymes Paint, haymespaint.com.au.

STYLING ASSISTANCE: GEORGIA HARRINGTON AND TIM CONNAL. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION




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3 KEY PIECES

# shared study

## While sharing might be a tall order for some siblings, this layout gives your kids their own zones for homework and craft after school

STYLING **JESSICA HANSON** PHOTOGRAPHY **SAM McADAM-COOPER**



STYLING ASSISTANCE: GEORGIA HARRINGTON. CASSANDRA BOWE AND RORY CARTER. *THIS IMAGE IS SHOT IN A STUDIO AND SHOULD SERVE AS GENERAL INSPIRATION ONLY. CONSIDER WHETHER THESE PRODUCTS ARE SUITABLE FOR YOUR CHILD BEFORE PURCHASING



**1** The desk is the centrepiece of a study space, and it needs to be streamlined but include storage. This design has a built-in tray and, when the lid is up (shown), it creates a contained homework zone for maximum focus – great for shared zones. 'K' **desk**, €566, Rafa Kids, rafa-kids.com.

The wallpaper's bold patterns and colours brings this room to life! Ingrid & Mika 'Sentiments' **wallpaper**, $132/10m roll, Milton & King, miltonandking.com.

**2** Good lighting in workspaces is essential for kids and adults alike, but design-savvy lamps can also bring sculptural detail to a study. A slender silhouette keeps the look uncluttered and a pop of vibrant colour never goes astray. 'Eileen' **table lamp**, $284, Lightly, lightly.com.au.





**3** While the graphic wallpaper can be credited with this space's sunny look, the carpet's neutral tone keeps things grounded. It's smart to include a calm shade to mellow bright schemes. Tretford 'Roll' **carpet** in Silver Birch, from $97/sqm, Gibbon Group, gibbongroup.com.au.



## THE STORAGE

Open display reduces the chance of books getting lost and allows your kids to create their own organised arrangements. Hay 'Woody' **shelving unit**, POA, Pappa Sven, pappasven.com.au.



**"It shouldn't be all work and no play – use colour for a fun, inviting study"**
JESSICA HANSON, STYLE EDITOR



Tellkiddo 'Bear' **storage bag**, $29, Leo & Bella, leoandbella.com.au.



Hay 'Colour Binder' **folders**, $54/set of 4, Cult, cultdesign.com.au.



'X' **stool**, €120, Rafa Kids, rafa-kids.com.

**AND THE REST...** *Monstera Deliciosa* **print** by By Garmi, $65 (unframed), Norsu Interiors. **Frame**, stylist's own. Design Letters **stool/storage bin**, $325, Design Mode International. **On desks:** Y'a Pas Le Feu Au Lac **platter**, $51.90, Top3 By Design. 'Geometry' **cup**, €16.50, Ferm Living. **Paintbrushes**, stylist's own. Design Letters by Arne Jacobsen **cup**, $37, and **lid**, $19, Top3 By Design. Hay 'Zip' **tablet cover**, $182, Cult. Hay 'Ink' **notebook**, $25, Cult. 'Television' **tray**, $89.95, Design Mode International. Hay 'Organiser' **box**, $80, Designstuff. **Pencils**, $25.95/set of 5, Design Mode International. Design Letters by Arne Jacobsen **cup**, $18.50, Pappa Sven. **Egg cup**, €15/pair, and **platter**, €17.50, Ferm Living. **On floor:** Y'a Pas Le Feu Au Lac 'Serving Kart' **dishes** (on wheels), from $40.90 each, Top3 By Design. Hay **spinning tops**, $37 each, Cult. Lego **storage bricks** in Black, from $12 each, Peter's Of Kensington; in White, from $17 each, Mighty Ape. **On wall:** Lucie Kaas 'Peggy' **wall clips**, $49.95 each, Urbaani Homewares. **Bag**, stylist's own. **Pinboard**, from $109.95, Al+Em. **Cards**, stylist's own. **Message board**, $450, Floral + Hardie. **On shelves:** Y'a Pas Le Feu Au Lac 'Woodstache Man' **toy**, $99.90, Top3 By Design. Hay 'Box Box' **storage boxes**, from $109/assorted set of 5, Cult. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 157




*how to*

# choose a rug

From making a statement to defining a zone, a rug is the ultimate style tool. Here's how to find the one to suit your space WORDS **KAREN SPRESSER**

**ground control** In this contemporary living area designed by Amber Road (amberroaddesign.com.au), an expanse of tactile colour comes courtesy of the gorgeous rug from Kulchi (kulchi.com).

**Rugs anchor a room** and infuse it with personality, style and warmth. They can be one of the more expensive pieces you buy for your home though, so it's important to choose wisely. Panel expert and interior stylist Lisa Koehler loves the colour, texture and feel that a rug brings to a room and says this key piece is one of the main building blocks to creating a cohesive space.

"I'm a great believer in a holistic approach when you're choosing a rug," says Lisa. "You should consider each element in the room. I always get really nervous when someone goes shopping for a rug without considering the rest of their space." Lisa thinks a rug is just as important to a room as a piece of art, a sofa or chair. "The rug, sofa and artwork all need to act as a family and work together aesthetically, tonally and texturally," she says. Read on for Lisa's advice on picking the right rug to suit your style and space.

## getting started

The first thing to do is measure your space, then decide on the aesthetic you want. Patterned or a solid block colour? What sort of material – natural fibre or synthetic? Does the rug need to be hard-wearing – is it going to be in an area that has a lot of foot traffic? Will it be partially covered by a sofa or coffee table? Do you want to be able to sit on it – is it important how it feels underfoot? Decide what type will best suit your room and the needs of your family or space.

Then look at the layout of your room. If the rug is for the living or family area, consider the sofa arrangement – whether you have a single sofa, a classic combination of a two-seater and three-seater, or a modular lounge, your seating will determine the shape and size of the rug you're looking for.

## style & materials

Take into consideration the sofa and the wall colour, the size and shape of the room and the feel you want to create in the space. If you want to create a harmonious, relaxing atmosphere, try a wool rug in a muted palette. If you prefer something dark and moody then look for a rug that features deeper, richer tones and lots of texture.

Are you looking for a plain or patterned rug? Again, weigh up where your rug is going to sit, what colours are in the rest of the room and what arrangement your sofa or chairs take. A dark rug is going to make a space feel more intimate while a pale rug won't look so imposing or heavy.

Look at the space holistically and work out if the rug can be seen in its entirety when it's in place. I wouldn't go and buy a beautiful patterned rug if it's going to be covered up by sofas or other furniture.

The material you choose for your rug depends on where it will live and what purpose it will serve; whether it's purely functional or a touch of luxury in your room. If it needs to be durable, look to synthetic fibres, wool blends or natural fibres such as sisal, which can take a lot of wear and tear. Think about whether you want your rug to be short pile or a longer, plusher pile.

## round or square?

Rectangular or square rugs may be more traditional but they're great for defining spaces. Saying that, there's something beautiful about round rugs. A round rug adds softness to a room and it doesn't matter if it doesn't fit the space perfectly. With a rectangular or square rug, it has to be the right size to be in proportion with the space otherwise it will look out of place. A circular rug is more forgiving in this sense.



"I'm a great believer in a holistic approach when you're choosing a rug"

LISA KOEHLER, PANEL STYLIST

PHOTOGRAPHY: (OPPOSITE) PRUE RUSCOE. (PORTRAIT) NIGEL LOUGH

## child-friendly options

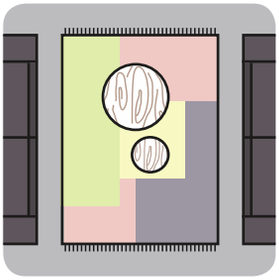
A rug to suit kids needs to be hard-wearing as well as good looking. Think about texture, pattern and weave. Go for something with a little bit of synthetic fibre in it. A wool blend would be my pick for children – it feels great underfoot – and consider protecting it with Scotchguard so that dirt and spills can be cleaned easily. I would choose a patterned rug, too, rather than a solid block colour. A graphic rug with a two-tone thread would be a great child-friendly choice, especially one with a longer pile. Children like to sit and play on rugs, so I'd make sure it felt great as well.

## save or splurge?

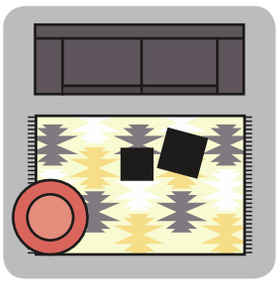
Rugs can be expensive and the bigger the rug, the more it's likely to cost; but there are lots of inexpensive, colourful rugs in the market that are fantastic to add interest and warmth to a room without breaking the budget. These are great options, especially if you like changing up the look and feel of your room from time to time. If you're looking to invest in a rug that will last for many years, go for something classic. Choose muted colours and natural fabrics such as silk or wool. Oriental rugs are beautiful and often a great match for more formal rooms. Kilims and dhurries add texture and colour to a space, and offer a tactile feel. Go for a pattern you know won't date; be wary of dramatic, geometric and bold statements, unless you're confident it suits your style.

## location, location

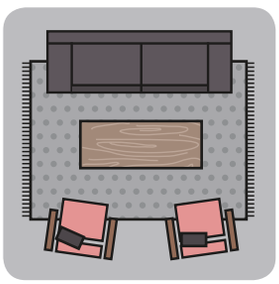
I get really crazy about positioning – I'll draw up a whole floorplan just to position someone's rug! To start with, the correct placement of a rug depends on how big the room is and what sofa configuration you have. It's really important to get the balance right, and here's how



< **If you have two sofas** then the rug needs to be evenly positioned between them – it should be an equal distance from each sofa – not 10cm in front of one and 20cm in front of the other. If it doesn't work equally then it's the wrong-sized rug for this particular space. Aim for symmetry.



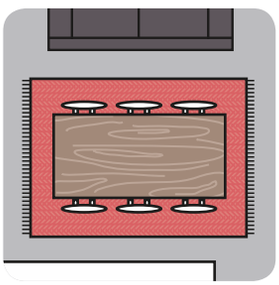
< **In a small space,** I like the rug to sit in front of a sofa, so there is a narrow strip of floor showing – this makes the room appear lighter and more spacious. This also gives you visual separation between the sofa and side tables – try a couple of these instead of a coffee table, as you'll be able to see more of the rug.



< **In a big open-plan space,** the rug should sit under the front legs of both the sofas – or if you have a large rug, then both sofas can sit completely atop the rug. If you have chairs in the space as well, then the front legs of the chair should be touching or "hovering" on the rug. This placement creates a cosy zone without closing off the area to the rest of the room.



< **With a modular sofa,** measure the space for the rug carefully – a standard-sized rug is 230cm by 160cm and that's a really difficult match for a modular as it can fall short either side. A custom rug is a better bet. A big rug makes a large open space feel more intimate by connecting all the elements.



< **A rug is the best tool to zone a space** in an open-plan area, whether you're defining space for a living, family or dining area. If you're zoning the dining area (or if you're putting a rug in your dining room), choose one that's big enough for the table and all the chairs to sit entirely on top.



ILLUSTRATIONS: CRYSTAL OSBORN. PHOTOGRAPHY: THE APARTMENT.DK



"Rectangular rugs may be more traditional but they're great for defining spaces"

LISA KOEHLER, PANEL STYLIST

**between the lines** This space, designed by The Apartment (theapartment.dk), highlights the power of a rug. The rug's tones are echoed in the furniture, while the pattern contrasts with the round forms.

'Tassel' **pot plant hanger**, NZ$175, Kathryn Leah Payne, kathrynleahpayne.com.

'Line' **pendant light**, $1080, Douglas And Bec, douglasandbec.com.

'Odin' **sideboard**, $1795, Clickon Furniture, clickonfurniture.com.au.

Stellar Works 'Ming' **chair**, $1835, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au.

'Grotto' **sofa**, $2499, Blu Dot, bludot.com.au.

'Tribute' **dining table**, from $6800, Zuster, zuster.com.au.

*winner!*

## 'Ridge' rug



**Michele Romaine**

Michele took out first prize and says the inspiration behind her rug came about quite differently to the usual way she works. "I was playing around with parallel lines in my drawings, but wanted to make it more fluid. Accidentally knocking my pencil as I drew one of the lines led me to create this design, which highlighted how inspiration can come about in different ways. I liked the idea of having something quite structural, but offsetting or softening it at the same time, so that it looked like waves or mountain ridges."

Steel-frame **mirror**, $650, Mark Tuckey, marktuckey.com.au.

# floor show

## International School of Colour+Design students came up with great creations for a Designer Rugs brief. Here are the finalists' stunning results and three living area looks

PRODUCT SOURCING **LIANA HAKIM**



avxhome.se



*Coral* **print** by Marcello Velho, $260 (unframed), Visions, visions-store.com.

## ‘Aeonium Tabuliforme’ rug



**Pip Harridge**

Ideas come from “anything and everything” for Pip, but it was a tropical holiday that led her to design this particular rug. “I experimented with different photos and images of palm trees and plants, but the final design was inspired by a succulent,” she says. Pip loves the simplicity and organic feel of her final design. She relished the chance to work with new techniques, trying to envisage her illustration as a rug, not just an image on the screen.

PHOTOGRAPHY: (RUGS) SAM McADAM-COOPER







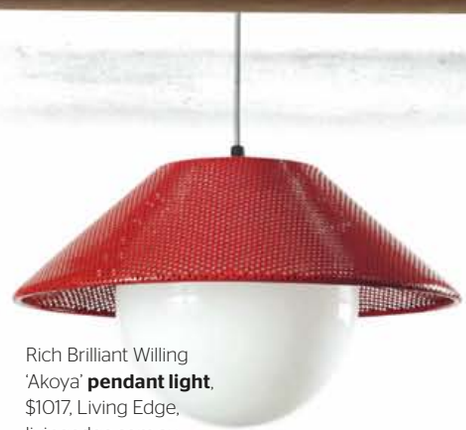
‘Bank Of Drawers’ **credenza** by Arne Vodder, $5950, Great Dane, greatdanefurniture.com.

## ‘Hourglass’ rug



**Shana Danon**

During Shana’s studies at ISCD, one of her briefs included creating designs from an everyday object. She chose a two-minute egg timer and the shape stayed with her when she was designing her ‘Hourglass’ rug. The biggest challenge? “Knowing when to stop!” she says. “If the design works, adding more detail or trying more colourways doesn’t necessarily mean a better design. It’s hard to switch off and not think of all the other ways you could possibly change the look.” *For more info, visit designerrugs.com.au and iscd.edu.au.*



Rich Brilliant Willing ‘Akoya’ **pendant light**, $1017, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au.



Marimekko ‘Saapaivakirja’ **bowl**, $29, Funkis, funkis.com.



‘Sweeney’ **chair**, $3365, Jardan, jardan.com.au.





One half of *The Block: Glasshouse*'s winning duo, Shannon Vos of VosCreative, voscreative.com.au.

**DESIGN FOCUS**

# bedroom layouts

## Planning a new sleeping zone? Shannon's here to help with three floorplan options, whether you're after a luxe master suite or a space-savvy boudoir

WORDS **SHANNON VOS**

**suite dreams** This elegant master suite in the Walsh St project, designed by Neometro (neometro.com.au), showcases the relaxed vibe a considered layout and cohesive look can create.



PHOTOGRAPHY: (MAIN) DEREK SWALWELL. (PORTRAIT) MATT JOHNSON.
STYLING: NINA PROVAN

**Bedrooms should** be a place of refuge and choosing a floorplan that works well will go a long way to ensuring you have a good sleep. Kicking the kids out for a night, a glass of red and the smooth tunes of Barry White will only go so far when it comes to having an inviting space; setting the mood with colours and tones will enhance your bedroom but nailing the right layout is the key to success here. Simon and I delivered really well on *The Block: Glasshouse*, with all our bedrooms scoring 27 out of 30. The results gave us a real satisfaction that we were doing the right thing and headed in the right direction. Simple design worked well with our splashes of character to create moody and peaceful spaces that not only served as relaxation zones, but places you would want to hang out in during the day – if only we hadn't 'dropped' that phone under the bed that one time!

## bed + ensuite + wardrobe

**1/** This layout roughly mirrors our master bedroom on *The Block: Glasshouse* – it works because it's simple. Choosing to have no doors on or in your walk-in wardrobe will encourage you to be neat and tidy.

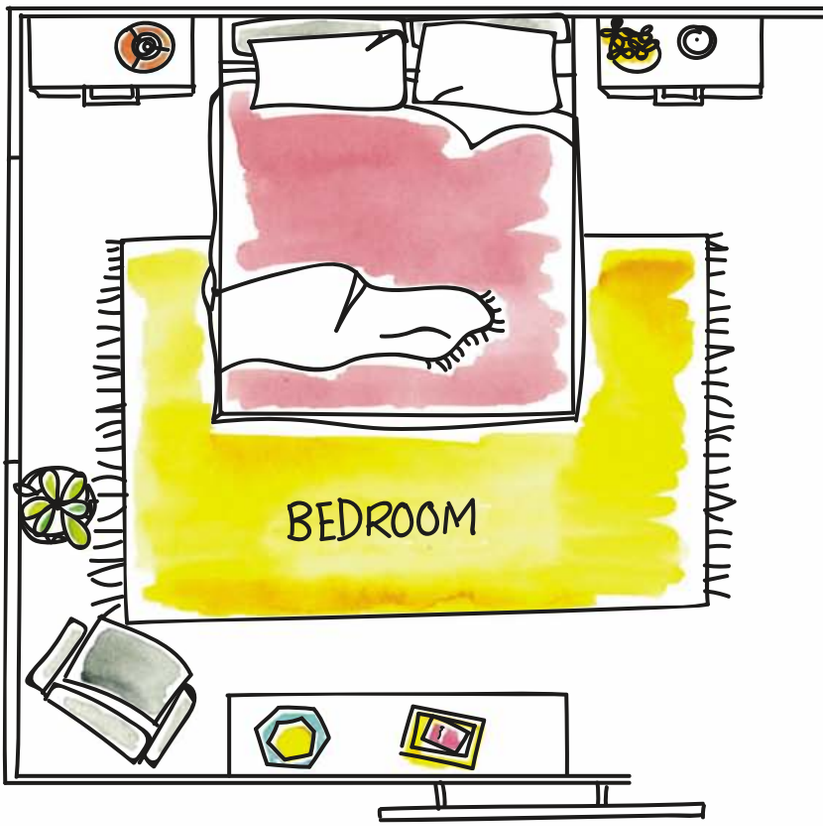
**2/** Allow function to dictate form. Here, the shower 'steals' the space from the robe because it's the more practical element.

**3/** Pick a focal element, like a freestanding bath. As you walk into the ensuite and see it, you'll get that instant sense of calm.

**4/** Mirrors will enhance the sense of space – position them to catch the light and in transitional spaces.

**5/** Go for sliding doors as you'll save on the space a traditional door takes up.

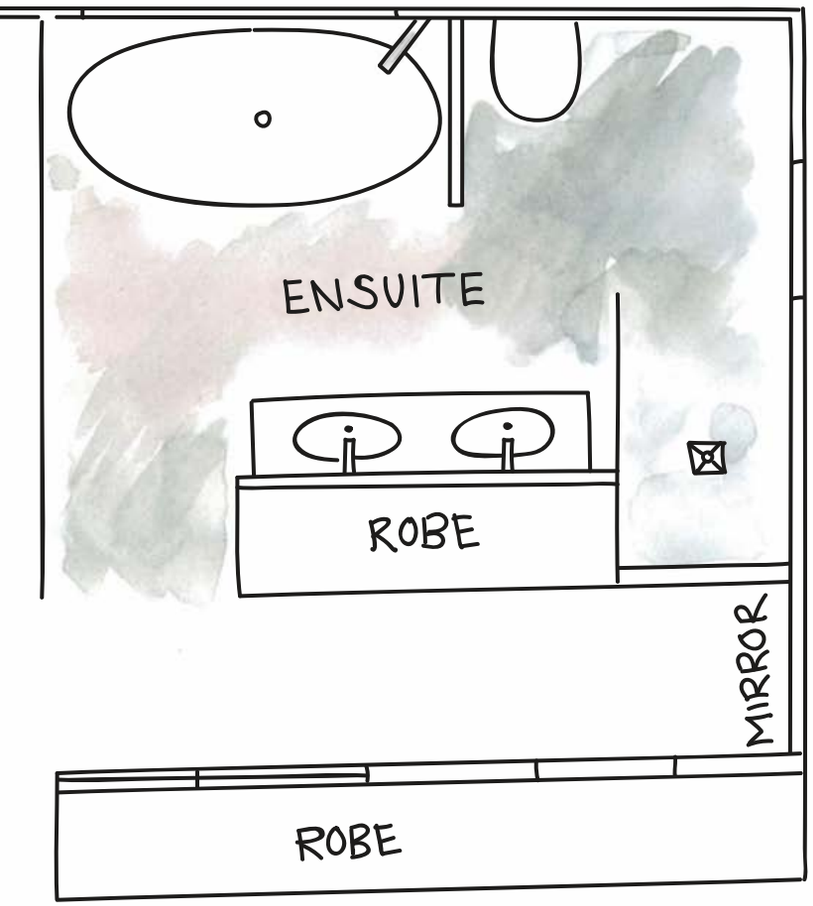
**6/** Bedside tables shouldn't be shouting for attention – leave that to the bigger pieces. They should reflect the tones and finishes of the room – try not to mix too many timbers or metals. If your room is more architectural with an angular feel, square options will work.







**"You need a hero or two in the bedroom – and I'm not referring to Ryan Gosling (sorry). In this ease, the heroes are usually lighting, an artwork or even a view"**




## bed + wardrobe

**1/** Keep 1000mm between the shelving units in a walk-in wardrobe.

**2/** Install 600mm-deep shelving – this will give you enough storage without losing too much floor space.

**3/** Turn your bedroom storage into a feature by going with bespoke joinery. Lots of light and space is important so I love low-lying cabinetry that can also double as bench seating – absolute winner in my book. Of course, practicality has to come into play, especially if you are a wearer of dresses and suits (preferably not together), so keep tall cabinets hidden in the walk-in. Use timbers, veneers or surfaces that have a tonal point of difference i.e. light or dark timber or grey.

**4/** Have a good think about what you'll store in your wardrobe. If you have a gazillion shoes, make room for them. Consider a balanced mix of drawers, shelves and hanging space, but make sure you also have room for accessories and smaller items.

**5/** Get creative and add mirrors to the pocket doors of this wardrobe layout. Mirrors are a necessity for getting changed, as well as enhancing the sense of space.

## bed + ensuite

**1/** Remember your space is three dimensional – for a small bedroom, keep your bed low to the ground.

**2/** Ensure the ensuite sits in a spot that is easily accessible from both sides of the bed. Keep at least 700mm on either side of the bed and 1000mm at the end.

**3/** Try not to let your storage impede on the bedroom's floor space. Recess your robe into a wall to maximise dimensions, and a chest of drawers is also a great option.

**4/** Add a rug for an extra cosy layer. Your rug should sit horizontally under the foot of the bed to make the room seem wider.

**5/** I love a crazy bedhead and the Mexsii one (mexsii.com) in our bedroom on *The Block: Glasshouse* was so sexy, I bought one myself. It's easily the hero piece, serving as a base for the room's colours and tones. For a more subtle bedhead, create a dynamic space with loads of texture and tone.



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# which chair are you?

**No, we don't mean 'what are you sitting on right now'. This is a far more existential question, folks. So, if you were an iconic chair, which one would you be? Take a seat and find out. Or is it the other way around?**

WORDS **CERI DAVID** STYLING **HEATHER NETTE KING**
PHOTOGRAPHY **DEREK SWALWELL**



STYLING ASSISTANCE: RACHEL POLIVKA. FROM TOP: LIMITED-EDITION FRITZ HANSEN 'SERIES 7' CHAIR, $1098, CULT, CULTDESIGN.COM.AU. 'NO. 18' CHAIR, FROM $3685.50, THONET, THONET.COM.AU. HERMAN MILLER 'DSW' CHAIR, $795, SCOUT HOUSE, SCOUTHOUSE.COM.AU. CARL HANSEN & SØN 'CH24 WISHBONE' CHAIR, $1315.60, CULT. AS BEFORE. (LEFT) KNOLL 'BERTOIA' SIDE CHAIR, $262.0, DEDECE, DEDECE.COM. (RIGHT) TOLIX 'CHAISE A' CHAIR, FROM $467.50, THONET. AS BEFORE

"Ever since being head girl at school, you've enjoyed setting a good, healthy and polished example"



## Are you a... Fritz Hansen 'Series 7'

***Arne Jacobsen designed 1955, Denmark, pressure-moulded veneer***

**On a strict schedule?** Your clear desk policy is the envy of the office, as is your wardrobe – including what you wear to Pilates at lunchtime. The fact is, ever since being head girl at school, you've enjoyed setting a good, healthy and polished example that comes down to organisation and discipline. Sunday afternoons, for example, see you drawing up meal plans for the week ahead, before placing your online grocery order. (Until Marks & Spencer finally opens in this country with its lovely food halls, you won't be setting foot in a supermarket.) Of course, all humans have flaws but that doesn't mean we need to flaunt them. Far better to talk it all through with your therapist, rather than bothering friends. But anyone who thinks you're a cold fish is very much mistaken. You get emotional. That's why waterproof mascara was invented.

**Words you'll never say:** "Does anyone know how I got home from karaoke?"

LIMITED EDITION FRITZ HANSEN 'SERIES 7' CHAIR, $1098, CULT, CULTDESIGN.COM.AU. FROM TOP: 'ASSEMBLAGES' LEATHER SHELF STRAPS, $135/SET, LIGHTLY, LIGHTLY.COM.AU. KREAFUNK 'AGROOVE' SPEAKER, $110, UNTIL, UNTIL.COM.AU. NORMANN COPENHAGEN 'FLIP' MIRROR, $160. TOP3 BY DESIGN, TOP3COM.AU. SERAX PLANT POT, $10, HUT 13, HUT13.COM. FLOWER, STYLIST'S OWN. HAY 'EDGE' NOTEBOOK, $19, AND 'BALLOGRAF' DESK SET, $54, CULT, AS BEFORE. SHELF CUT BY TAIT TIMBER & HARDWARE, TAITTIMBER.COM.AU. PAINTS: 'WASH & WEAR 101 BARRIER TECHNOLOGY' IN PINK CLAY (SHELF AND WALL) AND BLACK CAVIAR (FLOOR). ALL $46.45/1L, DULUX, DULUX.COM.AU

## Are you a... Tolix 'Chaise A'

***Xavier Pauchard designed 1934, France, industrial sheet metal***

**Prepared for anything?** No-nonsense and practical, you're the ultimate multi-tasker. Ten bucks says that right now you're bleaching tea stains out of your mugs, applying a pack of Nice'n Easy (Natural Dark Auburn) and performing kegels, all while catching up on *True Detective*. In the phrase, "If you want something done, give it to a busy person," you are that busy person. The contents of your handbag include, but are not limited to: water, banana, Band-Aids, umbrella (year-round), batteries, tissues, pen, mirror, headphones, puncture repair kit and a Ventolin inhaler (you're not asthmatic). The point is, whatever situation you find yourself or any bystanders in, you're ready. Your hidden talent? Even in high heels, you can run fast.

**Words you'll never say:** "There's no way I'm going outside; it's spitting."








TOLIX 'CHAISE A' CHAIR, FROM $467.50, THONET.COM.AU. FROM TOP: 'ASSEMBLAGES' LEATHER SHELF STRAPS, $150/SET, LIGHTLY, LIGHTLY.COM.AU. 'HEX' BOX, FROM $50, TOP3 BY DESIGN, TOP3.COM.AU. DIESEL LIVING WITH SELETTI 'DIY' CUTLERY, $100/ASSORTED SET OF 4, SPACE FURNITURE, SPACEFURNITURE.COM.AU. *VINTAGE INDUSTRIAL* BOOK BY MISHA DE POTESTAD AND PATRICE PASCAL, $79 (RIZZOLI). SCOUT HOUSE, SCOUTHOUSE.COM.AU. DIESEL LIVING WITH SELETTI 'TRANSMISSION' CANDLE HOLDERS, FROM $135 EACH, SPACE FURNITURE, AS BEFORE. GENTLEMEN'S HARDWARE HIP FLASK, $39.95, SHELLEY PANTON, SHELLEYPANTON.COM. SHELF CUT BY TAIT TIMBER & HARDWARE, TAITTIMBER.COM.AU. PAINTS: 'WASH & WEAR 101 BARRIER TECHNOLOGY' IN NATURAL WHITE (SHELF AND WALL), $41.45/1L AND MELON GREEN (FLOOR), $46.45/1L. DULUX, DULUX.COM.AU

## Are you a... Knoll 'Bertoia'

***Harry Bertoia designed 1952, USA, welded steel***

**On the cutting edge?** Like anyone with sense, you work in the digital space, operating out of a shared inner-city workspace for start-ups and creatives, where you've been using a standing desk for more than a year. At home, you're already streaming *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 2*, which is months away from release. You've also maximised the usable portion of the 24-hour day by systematically reducing the gaps between REM sleep waves – which, as everyone knows, are just wasted time – and you now function best on four hours a night. You handle human interaction in such a black and white way that friends (yes, you do have some) have accused you of being part robot. You take that as a compliment. Right now, you're getting bored of your Apple Watch.

**Words you'll never say:** "I'll just wait 'til they get it in at JB Hi-Fi."







KNOLL 'BERTOIA' CHAIR, $2620, DEDECE.COM. FROM TOP: 'ASSEMBLAGES' LEATHER SHELF STRAPS, $150/SET, LIGHTLY.LIGHTLY.COM.AU. *WALL PORN TYPE 1* SCULPTURE BY DION HORSTMANS, $589, AND MINI-EDITION *CENTURY* BOOK BY BRUCE BERNARD, $1995, SPACE FURNITURE.SPACEFURNITURE.COM.AU. 'ANEMOS' ESPRESSO CUP AND SAUCER, $34.20/SET, LIGHTLY, AS BEFORE. DESIGN LETTERS ESPRESSO CUPS BY ARNE JACOBSEN, $37 EACH, AND 'IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD' MAGAZINE RACK, $199, TOP3 BY DESIGN, TOP3.COM.AU. *MONOCHROME HOME* BOOK BY HILARY ROBERTSON, $59, SCOUT HOUSE, SCOUTHOUSE.COM.AU. SHELF CUT BY TAIT TIMBER & HARDWARE, TAITTIMBER.COM.AU. PAINTS: 'WASH & WEAR 101 BARRIER TECHNOLOGY' IN BLACK CAVIAR (SHELF AND FLOOR), $46.45/1L, AND NATURAL WHITE (WALL), $41.45/1L. DULUX, DULUX.COM.AU



"Like a more-chic and less-bearded Steve Jobs, you waste no time contemplating what to wear each morning"

## Are you a... Carl Hansen & Søn 'Wishbone'

***Hans J. Wegner designed 1949, Denmark, timber and paper cord***

**Early starter?** Your day begins with power yoga and a homemade smoothie, but you're no hippie. It's just a fact that a strong body and an open mind are essential for achieving your full potential – almost as essential as getting those bloody chia seeds out of your teeth before anyone sees you. Like a more-chic and less-bearded Steve Jobs, you waste no time contemplating what to wear each morning by filling your wardrobe with near-identical clothes. A standing order for the entire Jac + Jack collection each season leaves you with more headspace to devote to the bigger things such as feminism, mid-century architecture blogs, literary podcasts, etc. It's also super-comfy without quite sliding into 'onesie' territory. You secretly like the fact your perspex Germanic glasses and toned triceps intimidate people just as much as your intellectual ideas. If and when you decide to procreate, you'd like to explore the possibility of a home birth, but not if it ends up like that one on *Girls*.

**Words you'll never say:** "This? It's a fake from the night market in Kuta."




CARL HANSEN & SØN 'CH24 WISHBONE' CHAIR, $1315.60, CULT CULTDESIGN.COM.AU FROM TOP 'ASSEMBLAGES' LEATHER SHELF STRAPS, $135/SET, LIGHTLY, LIGHTLY.COM.AU PLANT, STYLIST'S OWN 'NATURAL BARK' VASE, $30, AND 'LOG' COASTER, $9 SHELLEY PANTON, SHELLEYPANTON.COM. NORMANN COPENHAGEN 'SHOREBIRD' ORNAMENT, FROM $50, TOP3 BY DESIGN, TOP3.COM.AU 'FOREST TREES' PAINTED ORNAMENTS, FROM $29.76 EACH, LIGHTLY. AS BEFORE. KREAFUNK 'AHEAD' HEADPHONES, $180, UNTIL, UNTIL.COM.AU *HIDE AND SEEK: THE ARCHITECTURE OF CABINS AND HIDEOUTS* BOOK BY SOFIA BORGES, $96, SHELLEY PANTON, AS BEFORE. SHELF CUT BY TAIT TIMBER & HARDWARE, TAITTIMBER.COM.AU. PAINTS: 'WASH & WEAR 101 BARRIER TECHNOLOGY' IN MELON GREEN (SHELF, WALL AND FLOOR), $46.45/1L, DULUX, DULUX.COM.AU

## Are you a... Thonet 'No. 18'

***Michael Thonet designed 1876, Austria, steam-treated wood***

**Traditionalist at heart?** Graceful and elegant, you trained in classical ballet as a child and often find yourself standing in third position while waiting for your jamon at the deli. Cooking is by far your biggest passion, and you take as much care over a meal for one as you do when entertaining friends. Not once have you eaten a bowl of Coco Pops for dinner, and you'd rather drink Windex than use a sachet of pre-made hollandaise sauce. It's not that you reject modern life completely, but you do sometimes wonder if you might have been a better fit in the 1950s, when you wouldn't be the only one still handwriting your appointments into a leather-bound diary. Instead, you cocoon yourself from the mayhem of the outside world by playing the soothing sounds of Michael Bublé on repeat and rubbing in L'Occitane lavender hand cream. Anyone inviting you to their wedding gets a full set of Le Creuset as a gift. You have never worn a G-string.

**Words you'll never say:** "I honestly don't think there's anything wrong with polyester."



'NO. 18' CHAIR, FROM $368.50, THONET, THONET.COM.AU. FROM TOP: 'ASSEMBLAGES' LEATHER SHELF STRAPS, $135/SET, LIGHTLY, LIGHTLY.COM.AU. ROBERT GORDON 'HEART' CUP AND SAUCER, $1495/SET, ROSE ST. TRADING CO., ROSESTTRADINGCO.COM.AU. IITTALA 'SAVOY' VASE BY ALVAR AALTO, $290, TOP3 BY DESIGN, TOP3COM.AU. FLOWERS, STYLIST'S OWN. KATE SPADE NEW YORK *FOR THE MR. & MRS.* GUEST BOOK, $1599.5, ROSE ST. TRADING CO., AS BEFORE. 'SILKEBORG 'TWIST A TWILL' THROW, $242, LIGHTLY, AS BEFORE. 'FAMOUS 5' CALACATTA MARBLE ORNAMENT, $590, CZAR IN DESIGN, CZARINDESIGN.COM.AU. SHELF CUT BY TAIT TIMBER & HARDWARE, TAITTIMBER.COM.AU. PAINT: 'WASH & WEAR 101 BARRIER TECHNOLOGY' IN NATURAL WHITE (SHELF, WALL AND FLOOR), $41.45/1L, DULUX, DULUX.COM.AU

## Are you a... Herman Miller 'DSW'

***Charles and Ray Eames designed 1948, USA, mixed materials***

**Update your status every hour?** No-one could ever accuse you of being stuck in your ways. In fact, your Facebook feed doubles as a pretty comprehensive timeline of mainstream trends circa 2010-2015, since you joined the rest of the world on social media. Let's have a quick scroll back... Ah yes, that's when everyone was wearing body-con. There you are doing the top-knot-and-balayage thing. And remember that time a family of daddy-long-legs crawled onto your face? No, wait, that was your lash-extension phase. Happy days. Because let's be honest, variety is the spice of life. But more than that, you love to fit in, and that's what makes you a people person. You're not opinionated or aggressive or political. You're a good listener who's always able to see both sides of any argument, which is probably why friends love confiding in you over a nice cold sauv blanc (which, BTW, is also Oprah's fave drop). And, when they do come over, you never forget to put the Aesop handwash out on the kitchen bench.

**Words you'll never say:** "I heard this hectic new indie band on Triple J."

**pop quiz!**

Take the quiz on insideout.com.au. Better yet, get your friends to do it and find out which iconic seats you all are.

FROM TOP: HERMAN MILLER 'DSW' CHAIR IN CELERY, $795, SCOUT HOUSE. SCOUTHOUSE.COM.AU. HERMAN MILLER 'DSW' CHAIRS IN PARCHMENT AND BLACK, FROM $781 EACH, LIVING EDGE. LIVINGEDGE.COM.AU. HAY SPINNING TOPS, $37 EACH. 'WOODEN WONDERLAND' BLOCKS BY LEE STORM, $143/ASSORTED SET OF 16; MAGIS 'ARCHETOYS' GREEN CAR, $179.30, AND ICE-CREAM VAN, $195. CULT. CULTDESIGN.COM.AU. EAMES 'HOUSE OF CARDS' PLAYING CARDS, $79. SCOUT HOUSE. AS BEFORE. PAINTS: 'WASH & WEAR 101 BARRIER TECHNOLOGY' IN PINK CLAY (WALL), AND MELON GREEN (FLOOR), $46.45/1L. DULUX. DULUX.COM.AU



*Inside Out*'s founding editor, Karen McCartney

# a clean base

Neutrals don't have to be clinical. *Inside Out*'s founding editor Karen McCartney and regular contributor David Harrison reveal how to decorate in subtle shades in their new book, *White Rooms*

## white in open spaces

Large spaces painted brilliant white can often appear cold and uninviting if the white has a blue or black tint – too much of a gallery and not enough of a home. A white open-plan room with large floor-to-ceiling windows can also become blinkingly bright if the house is near water where light reflection is high. To combat this, tints that soften the colour are advised – adding a touch of grey/brown to the paint along with a low-reflection flat wall and ceiling paint is recommended.



## a background colour

When you are looking for the right shade of white to act as a background for a collection which incorporates a variety of colours, finishes and materials, raw umber is a great 'one size fits all' tint. It's not yellow, blue or red; instead, it is rather like adding a hint of a timber shade to the white. It has the effect of warming up the white without dominating or fighting with any colour positioned in front of it.





WORDS: KAREN McCARTNEY AND DAVID HARRISON. PHOTOGRAPHY: RICHARD POWERS. (PORTRAIT) HUGH STEWART. INTERIOR DESIGN. (OPPOSITE) YABU PUSHELBERG. YABUPUSHELBERG.COM

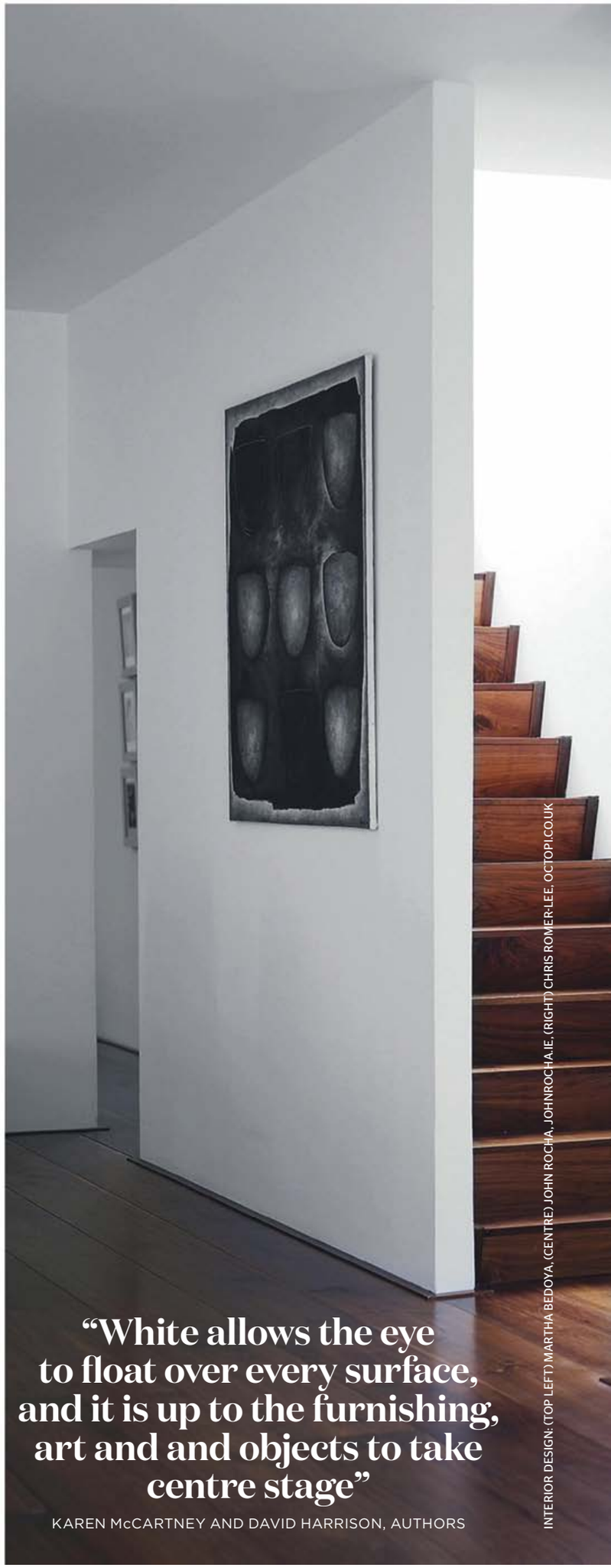


## the use of sheer fabrics

One of the most effective additions to a white space is sheer curtains, particularly in bedrooms and bathrooms. The diffusion of light provided by the sheer fabric can create a quite magical glow and acts like a soft box in a photographer's studio – reducing hard shadows and making everything appear warm, smooth and ethereal. Used cleverly in combination with areas not filtered by fabric, a wonderful combination of soft and direct light can be achieved.

## gallery white

Popular with galleries worldwide, this particular white is really a non-colour. A white paint without pigments, it is totally neutral and has a flat sheen level so doesn't reflect much light or artificially enhance anything around it. Chosen because it has no impact on the colour and qualities of the artworks, this white can feel a bit clinical in a domestic environment but is well worth considering if the accurate presentation of artworks is of major concern.



**"White allows the eye to float over every surface, and it is up to the furnishing, art and and objects to take centre stage"**

KAREN McCARTNEY AND DAVID HARRISON, AUTHORS

INTERIOR DESIGN: (TOP LEFT) MARTHA BEDOYA, (CENTRE) JOHN ROCHA, JOHNROCHA.IE, (RIGHT) CHRIS ROMER-LEE, OCTOPI.CO.UK





## white-painted boards

While it's not a long-lasting solution, painting floorboards can work beautifully. Functionally, it's a compromise, as you tend to see the dust and dirt, but if you don't mind a casual look with a hint of dilapidation, then white-painted floors can work extremely well. Floorboards expand and contract constantly, so use water-based floor paints as they move with the timber. Satin is the best sheen level for floors as it washes almost as well as gloss but shows less wear.

*For more real-life white home inspiration, turn to page 80 to see the possibilities of a pale palette.*

---

Edited extract from *White Rooms* by Karen McCartney and David Harrison with photography by Richard Powers ($59.99, Lantern/Penguin), available from August 26. Pre-order the book now from Booktopia (booktopia.com.au), Bookworld (bookworld.com.au), and good bookshops and online stores.




To coincide with the launch of *White Rooms*, Karen McCartney and David Harrison will release a range of white paints with Murobond – visit murobond.com.au for more details.

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# inside



## subtle touch

### Add life to a white scheme with a mix of statement pieces

White has many decorating virtues – it instantly freshens up, adds light and a clean look to a space. Bring depth to this blank canvas, without losing its elegant appeal, by choosing pieces with neutral tones and in soft textures. In this bedroom, the key items that enhance the all-white look are the wrinkled linen on the bed, a knitted rug and a pair of organic abstract artworks. Turn the page to see more of this elegant home.

PHOTOGRAPHY: FELIX FOREST. STYLING: CLAIRE DELMAR. ARTWORK BY MONIQUE LOVERING, SMALL SPACES, SMALL-SPACES.COM.AU. ALISON LITTLEMORE JUG, CHINACLAY, CHINACLAY.COM.AU. SWEDESE SIDE TABLE, FRED INTERNATIONAL, FREDISHERE.COM. PILLOWCASES, BODY CUSHION AND DUVET COVERS, HALE MERCANTILE CO, HALEMERCANTILECO.COM. GAN RUG, HUB FURNITURE, HUBFURNITURE.COM.AU

# finding the upside

**Keeping everyone happy turned this architect's Sydney renovation into a surprising success that also unlocked a stunning skyline view** WORDS **LEE TRAN LAM**

STYLING **CLAIRE DELMAR** PHOTOGRAPHY **FELIX FOREST**



**STAIRWELL** William Drew's pared-back home isn't just a blank canvas – details like the shell wall-hanging from The Design Hunter stand out. **DINING AREA/KITCHEN (opposite)** A set of lights from a Qantas aircraft hanger suits this open space's industrial look. Originally in a lightish blue, William sand-blasted and resprayed them in white.

## cheat sheet

**Who lives here?** Architect William Drew and his French bulldog, Louis.

**Style of house:** A '60s two-bedroom three-storey home in inner-city Sydney.

**$$$** Renovating this property – which was "a little badge factory in a former life", says William – cost around $350k.

The development application process was extensive and took around 10 months, while the build required eight months.

MARBLE AND TIMBER CHEESEBOARD, THE DESIGN HUNTER, THEDESIGNHUNTER.COM.AU. RUBBER ROPE BOWL, MACLEAY ON MANNING, MACLEAYONMANNING.COM. PORCELAIN VASES, JARDAN, JARDAN.COM.AU. FLOWERS, GARLANDS, GARLANDSFLORIST.COM.AU. NAPKIN, HALE MERCANTILE CO., HALEMERCANTILE.CO.COM. VOLCANIC PLATE, THE DESIGN HUNTER, THEDESIGNHUNTER.COM.AU. MUM DISH WITH CRAWLED GLAZE, HAGI YAKI VASE AND SCALLOP-EDGED BOWL, PLANET, PLANETFURNITURE.COM.AU



### *paint match*

William's home was painted with Dulux's Antique White USA – even the exterior.





**EXTERIOR (opposite)** The unassuming front of the house disguises the fact that the whole building has been extended by a floor and a half. **DINING AREA (top left)** William sits at the expansive timber table that features pieces from Chinaclay, The Design Hunter and Planet **(top right)**. The table was tricky to get. "Everything I liked was way beyond my budget," says William. "It took some patience, but I eventually found this on eBay for a song."

**Interference from the** neighbours is what every renovator dreads – but for architect William Drew, this turned out to be a great thing when working on his home in Sydney's Newtown. The positive side wasn't obvious at first, when plans were stuck in development-application limbo for months. Nearby residents were unhappy with what they believed was an unfair impact on their property. "I had to re-design once as a result, but in many ways I ended up with a better design – so I guess I have them to thank for it!" says William. "And now we're great friends." Besides excellent neighbourly relations, the results produced an elegant, stripped-back reinvention of an old factory space that originally towered at an awkward height and came with a surprise layer of dodgy foundations. "I bought the house specifically because it did need work," says William. Instead of erasing away all the site's character, though, his contemporary transformation is a one-of-a-kind tribute to the building's original features.

**William, as an architect, was working on your home a good way to try ambitious ideas?** It was an opportunity to design a space just the way I wanted – without having to please anyone else's idea of what it should be. That was a nice change, but it did mean it would be seen as a true expression of my design ideals so there was a little added pressure there, but certainly nothing I'd call nerve-racking!

ALANA WILSON VESSEL AND JANETTA KERR-GRANT PLATE, CHINACLAY, CHINACLAYMYSHOPIFY.COM. NAPKIN, HALE MERCANTILE CO, HALEMERCANTILECO.COM. MUM DISH WITH CRAWLED GLAZE, PLANET, PLANETFURNITURE.COM.AU. VOLCANIC PLATE, THE DESIGN HUNTER, THEDESIGNHUNTER.COM.AU

avxhome.se



***star performer***

Pairing exposed brick with white and timber makes for a graceful take on industrial style.



ARMCHAIR AND SOFA, URBAN COUTURE DESIGN HOMEWARES, URBANCOUTURE.COM.AU; GAN 'KNITTED' STOOL, HUB FURNITURE, HUBFURNITURE.COM.AU; SWEDESE 'DESIREE' CHAIR, 'DRUM' SIDE TABLE AND RUBN 'LEKTOR' FLOOR LAMP, FRED INTERNATIONAL, FREDISHERE.COM.AU; COWHIDE RUG, THE DESIGN HUNTER, THEDESIGNHUNTER.COM.AU; ALANA WILSON BOWL, CHINACLAY, CHINACLAY.MYSHOPIFY.COM; HINO VASE, PLANET, PLANETFURNITURE.COM.AU; BODY CUSHION, HALE MERCANTILE CO., HALEMERCANTILECO.COM

**LIVING AREA** "I retained as much as I could of the building, and in areas where I couldn't – such as the roof – I tried to recycle," says William. "For instance, the beams you see in the ceiling above the void are the old rafters, which I salvaged then laminated together, to give them greater depth." He jokes that he kept the brickwork exposed because he was slack. In reality, he had intended to paint these walls white. "But I liked how it looked and that was that."

**What inspired you to raise the level of the home?** The building was originally a level and a half. Which sounds weird, but it had a small mezzanine at the street end, which was the bedroom, and the ceiling height was so low you had to duck your head at the top of the stairs to crawl into bed. There were structural challenges with raising the height; the original foundations were never designed to take that sort of load, so we engineered a solution to transfer the additional weight down to these large pad footings, which were independent of the original structure.

**What are the key features you've introduced?** The central void – it comes to life with the movement of people throughout the home. And, by its very nature, it's generous; a developer may potentially have seen another room in this space, but by leaving the void, a tiny little house appears grand. The other key feature would have to be the upper level deck; previously the house had no external private space (being built to almost all boundaries), so the upper level deck was critical, and the view from up there is wonderful and surprisingly private.

**Your home has a great pared-back and neutral look. So what drew you to working with a mainly white palette?** I'm lazy. Ha! Seriously though, I'm not a great fan of colour – permanent colour, that is. I tend to think it has a lifespan and will inevitably date. I love texture and natural materials; white will enhance these finishes, rather than compete with them.

**Your neighbours made suggestions – and this ended up being an advantage in the end. What were the improvements?** The original design kept the bulk of the building envelope lower. I did this with the intention of minimising the overshadowing impact on those neighbours in question. But it wasn't accepted, and I had to shift the bulk of the home forward and up. This ended up giving me a much more usable upper level.

**You moved in before the home was finished – was it hard living with the project still incomplete?** I was living with my parents during the build, for which I am incredibly grateful; I doubt I could have done it financially if I had to rent simultaneously. But the build did take longer than I'd anticipated, and living with my parents put a strain on my relationship with my girlfriend at the time. So I was glad to move in as soon as I could. I had everything I needed aside from a kitchen – so I just set up my camping stove and, if I didn't order in, I'd cook on it.

**As an architect, do you think the project is ever fully complete?** There's always something else to do, always something to finish. But it has been one of the most rewarding things I've done in my life. I love the house – it's perfect for me. 10

*For more info about William's work, visit williamdrew.com.au.*
*For details about the builder, Philip Drew, visit pmdbuild.com.au.*



“I love texture and natural materials; white will enhance these finishes rather than compete with them” WILLIAM DREW, OWNER

**STAIRCASE (opposite)** Constructing the staircase was complicated – seven different suppliers and specialists were involved in its completion. **MASTER BEDROOM (below)** The home's clean white palette is echoed by the wardrobe, rustic layers of bedding from Hale Mercantile Co. and the Swedese 'Desiree' chair from Fred International. This calm space is a lot roomier than the original mezzanine bedroom, where you had to duck your head to climb into bed.



DUVET COVERS, PILLOWCASES, BODY CUSHION AND CUSHION ON CHAIR, HALE MERCANTILE CO., HALEMERCANTILECO.COM. ALANA WILSON VESSEL, CHINACLAY, CHINACLAYMYSHOPIFY.COM

## timeline

**2010**

**July** William buys the house at auction against three other active bidders.

**2011**

**December** Development application is sent. Approval takes 10 months to obtain. The process is a "significant battle" and it's "a great relief" when the DA is finally accepted, says William.

**2012**

**August** William's brother Philip is the main contractor on the project. William gets things started by doing the demolition with the help of friends. As his home is being rebuilt, William stays with his parents in the meantime.

**2013**

**February** As soon as the bathroom is installed, William moves back in. With no functioning kitchen, he makes do with a camping stove.

**March** The kitchen is completed. Along with painting and finishing touches, this is the final step of the renovation.




**1.** Entry
**2.** Living area
**3.** Dining area
**4.** Kitchen
**5.** Bathroom
**6.** Void
**7.** Storage
**8.** Master bedroom
**9.** Ensuite
**10.** Guest bedroom
**11.** Deck

**BATHROOM** Bitossi vessels from Hub Furniture add a dash of colour to this utilitarian space. **ROOFTOP (opposite)** The best surprise from the renovation was the view that it unlocked. "I knew it would be great when we finally got to the upper level – but when we did, and I could see all the way to Botany Bay [30 kilometres away], I was amazed," says William.

'THE MAGIC 3' PRODUCT SOURCING: DANIELLE SELIG. PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAIT) SAM McADAM-COOPER. THIS PAGE: BEDOUIN AND CROCHET BATHMATS, POND, POND-POND.COM. OPPOSITE: HARBOUR OUTDOOR ARMCHAIR, URBAN COUTURE DESIGN + HOMEWARES, URBANCOUTURE.COM.AU. THROW, PLANET, PLANETFURNITURE.COM.AU. ALISON LITTLEMORE BOWL, CHINACLAY, CHINACLAYMYSHOPIFY.COM



## lessons learnt

"I'd assumed the ground slab was reinforced, perhaps even thick enough to grind back and polish" WILLIAM DREW, OWNER

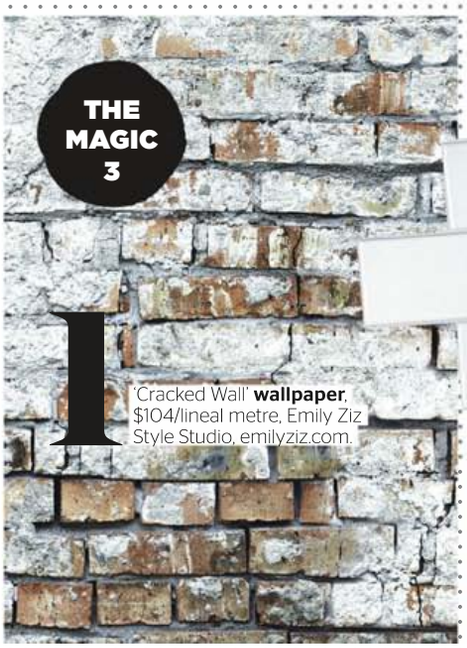
"But I was wrong, and the slab ended up being as thin as 30mm in places – so it had to be ripped up and dumped, and I needed to excavate the ground to make way for a real slab. So this cost time, as well as money."

## reno rewind



Originally the home had a dark exterior and an awkward mezzanine bedroom level.

**THE MAGIC 3**



**1** 'Cracked Wall' **wallpaper**, $104/lineal metre, Emily Ziz Style Studio, emilyziz.com.



**2** 'Bianco Subway DLT20903' **tile**, $80/sqm, Di Lorenzo Tiles, dilorenzo.com.au.



**3** 'Random Grind' **concrete**, POA, Boral Concrete, 1300 552 555.



"Bring together rough, smooth and glossy materials of a similar tone to add contrast and texture to an all-white interior"
JOSEPH GARDNER, MARKET EDITOR

# bright spark

## NEON SHADES HIGHLIGHT THE FUN FACTOR OF THIS RELAXED AND CREATIVE FAMILY HOME

WORDS **CATHERINE McCORMACK** STYLING **MEGAN MORTON** PHOTOGRAPHY **FRANÇOISE BAUDET**



ARTWORK: DION HORSTMANS

## CHEAT SHEET

**Who lives here:** Karina Pires, textile and wallpaper designer at House Of Six; husband David Hanna, division director at Macquarie Bank; and their kids, Gabrielle, 5, and Sebastian, 3.

**Style of house:** A freestanding 1920s-era three-bedroom Californian bungalow in Sydney's North Bondi.

$$$$ Prior to moving in, the couple spent around $50k giving the house a facelift. They're now in the planning stage of a larger-scale renovation and extension.

**READING ROOM (opposite)** This nook is a favourite spot for owner Karina, who loves having "little pockets where you can escape and read" in her home. The pink Walter Knoll chair is upholstered in wool fabric Karina sourced and dyed herself. **DINING AREA** The window covering is a crochet throw from the Salvos that Karina (pictured) dip-dyed in black tea.

*bright idea*

These inset shelves in the kitchen bench offer storage and display space.

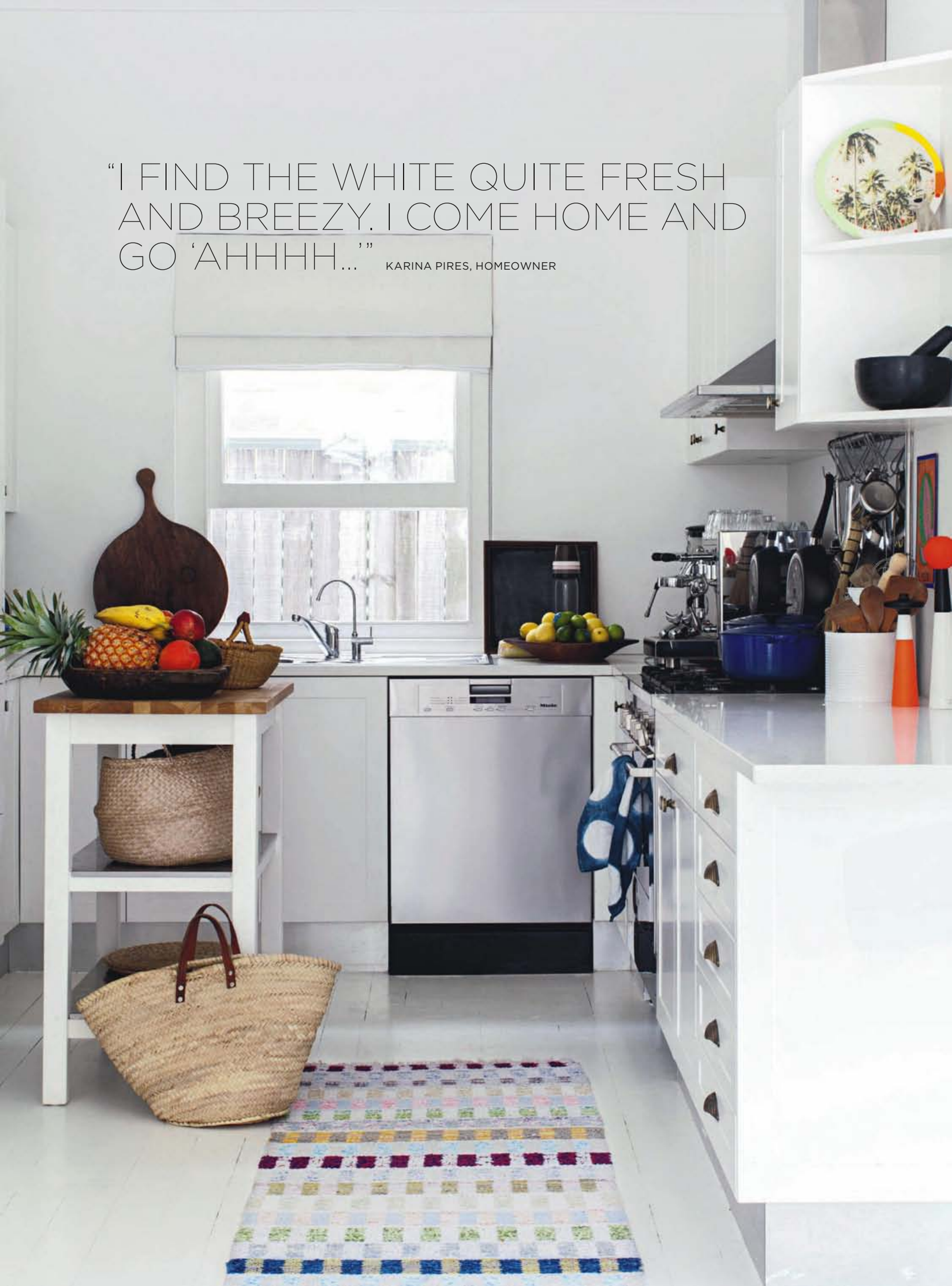
**Brazilian-born textile** and wallpaper designer Karina Pires has an innate sense of colour. She loves to play with tone and texture in her work for her label House Of Six and, at home, neon-bright furnishings and art create a sense of fun, freedom and relaxed family living. "I'm a person who's attracted to colour," she says.

Karina has had a long-term love for textiles, honing her skills over the years in the worlds of design, fashion and interiors. Her connection to colour can be traced back to her childhood. "Brazil is a bright and happy country, and being quite laidback is part of that as well," she says. "I grew up with a lot of colour around me in every sense and I like things to be easy in a house, to be comfortable and natural. I don't like anything that is too staged." This attitude set the style tone when Karina and her husband David purchased a Californian bungalow in Sydney's North Bondi.

The couple – who share the home with their children Gabrielle and Sebastian – loved the area's breezy beach vibe (David is an avid surfer and volunteer lifeguard). The home's period charm and family-friendly layout were also appealing elements.



**OPEN-PLAN LIVING (above)** Karina's love of mixing high-end with collected pieces is on show in the dining area, where Thonet chairs sit around an IKEA table. The Aquabumps *Riptides* artwork is a gift from Karina to David. **LIVING AREA (right)** Gabrielle sits on the Jardan sofa, which is accented with shibori cushions made by Karina. **KITCHEN (opposite)** Even the modest kitchen boasts pops of colour, thanks to an Ahoy Trader porthole artwork and Tom Dixon salt and pepper grinders.



"I FIND THE WHITE QUITE FRESH AND BREEZY. I COME HOME AND GO 'AHHHH...'" KARINA PIRES, HOMEOWNER






**READING ROOM (above left)** A gift to Karina from David, Gemma Smith's painting *Tangled* has pride of place over the fireplace. Painterly cushions from House Of Six dress up the grey sofa. **GABRIELLE'S ROOM (above right)** A Blink Designs 'Colours' wall chart sets the fun, happy feel in this space. **MASTER BEDROOM (opposite)** Every piece in David and Karina's home has a story to tell, including the framed family photograph. "It's of my mum and four of us kids," says Karina. Beside it are two of Karina's prints.

"On the day of the opening, there were about 100 people here – you seriously could not walk inside the house," recalls Karina. "It was just a really good sized block and the house had great bones. We loved its character and set our hearts on it."

The couple are just the third owners of the house, with the original owner having built it and the previous owners adding the living room extension. Although happy with the floorplan, Karina and David freshened things up before moving in. Carpets were removed, several windows restored and the walls and floors painted throughout. The garden shed, which spans the width of the yard and is home to storage, Karina's office and her painting studio, was also run-down "so we put some colour in," she says. "It was nice to shake off what it was before and make it into our home."

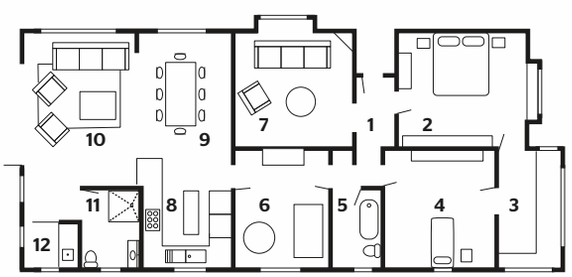
Inside, painting the floors white was key to the transformation and plenty of research went into finding the right paint. Karina brought home several test pots before discovering Porter's Paints Perfect Floor paint. "It doesn't chip, it's not shiny. It's been two years and we haven't repainted," she says. "The floors are also easy to maintain and, surprisingly, they don't ever look very dirty."

The secret to using bold colour in an all-white space? Mix in natural tones and materials, says Karina. "If you can combine white with a bit of a natural base, then have a few splashes of colour, you can achieve a good combination." Rugs are also an essential. "They make the house more comfortable and define the space," says Karina.

Collecting pieces that have soul is also advised. Karina and David collect art and curios on their travels, with many pieces from Brazil. "I like to have memories attached to things," says Karina. "Especially with family overseas, it's important that I bring that feel back."

Family is all important. "We love hanging at home and having friends around for a drink," says Karina. "Because we're so close to the beach, we always wanted the house to be laidback. For us, it's important to be able to hang out in the backyard with the kids." 10

*For more info on Karina's work, visit houseofsix.myshopify.com.*




**1.** Entry
**2.** Master bedroom
**3.** Playroom
**4.** Gabrielle's room
**5.** Bathroom
**6.** Sebastian's room
**7.** Reading room
**8.** Kitchen
**9.** Dining area
**10.** Living area
**11.** Bathroom
**12.** Laundry




"I LIKE MIXING HIGH-END WITH VINTAGE – IT MEANS NOTHING'S TOO PRECIOUS" KARINA PIRES, HOMEOWNER



**STUDIO (above)** Having a home studio (located in the garden shed) "is such a dream come true", says Karina. "It's a quiet space where I can be creative. Even if I have the kids at home I can often fit in a couple of hours." Here, test rolls of fabrics and wallpaper for House Of Six sit with Karina's ever-evolving moodboards. The couch is also covered in her designs. **SHED (opposite)** Karina sits with Gabrielle and Sebastian outside the cobalt-blue shed, which is part garden storage, part home office and part studio.

## PAINT PALETTE



"THESE BRIGHT SHADES ARE QUITE TONALLY COMPARATIVE – NEITHER ONE BREAKS THE OTHER, MAKING IT THE IDEAL PALETTE FOR COLOURFUL FAMILY LIFE" MEGAN MORTON, STYLIST

'4 Seasons' low sheen exterior **paints** in James Blue, $60.90/4L, and Mountain Peak, $55.50/4L; and 'Clean & Protect' low sheen interior **paint** in Fresh Orange, $59.90/4L, all British Paints, britishpaints.com.au.



## 5 GREAT FINDS



**1** 'Componibili' **unit**, $220/3-tier, Kartell Sydney, (02) 8339 7505.



**2** 'Palette Peach' **cushion**, $185, Bonnie And Neil, bonnieandneil.com.au.



**3** 'Contemporary' **pot**, $495, Garden Life, gardenlife.com.au.



**4** 'Argyle' **rug**, from $3795, Jardan, jardan.com.au.



**5** 'Plank' **chair**, from $5500, Great Dane, greatdanefurniture.com.




## LESSONS LEARNT

"WE UNDERESTIMATED TIME – EVEN FOR A FACELIFT, WE FELL THREE WEEKS BEHIND"

KARINA PIRES, HOMEOWNER

**Top paint advice:** "Something we've learnt is that you've got to stick to your test paint, colours and brand. In our old house, we gave our painter colour chips from a supplier and, later on, we found out that he went to a different supplier to mix the paint. You could tell the shade was quite different – I picked up on it straightaway."

**Best way to visualise the home's look:** "Creating moodboards really helped me. They weren't specific about furniture – it was about the feel I wanted and working with a colour palette that would complement the white floors.

'5 GREAT FINDS' PRODUCT SOURCING: DANIELLE SELIG. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

# DARK MA

## A moody palette adds gravitas to the neutral tones in this family home

WORDS **JONNA KIVILAHTI** PHOTOGRAPHY **KRISTA KELTANEN/LIVING INSIDE**



## CHEAT SHEET

**Who lives here:** Mika Oinonen, an entrepreneur; his wife Anna-Mari Leskinen, a business controller; and their daughter Josefina, 20 months.
**Style of house:** A newly built three-storey house located in a tranquil spot in Jyväskylä, Finland.

# GIC




## 1 | FAIR TRADE

Mika and Anna-Mari came across their home via building company Muurametalot, which was working on a 'pilot' house for an annual housing fair, where architects and designers introduce new trends. The couple bought the project home before its completion for the housing fair. The black, white and neutral shades of the kitchen and dining area ground the mix of materials – concrete benchtops, timber panelling and copper lights.

## 2 | OPENING UP

Mika and Anna-Mari (opposite, with baby Josefina) fell for the open space and "good flow" in the living areas, designed by architect Marco Casagrande. To counter the dramatic grey used on the walls, the couple chose a large white sofa and an assortment of timber and glossy black side tables. These pieces, along with the layering of rugs underfoot, create an inviting space to relax in.



**"The timeless feel and form of this home made a lasting impression on us"** MIKA OINONEN, HOMEOWNER





A white varnish over the oak floors creates a soft and neutral base for the house, and avoids the stark look of a white floor paint.



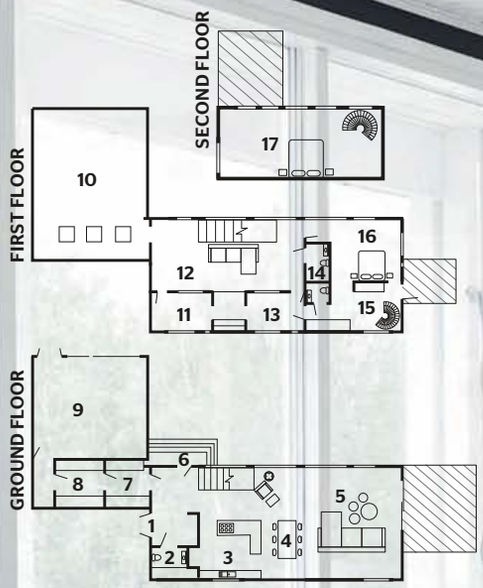
## 3 | TREAD LIGHTLY

A see-through staircase leads to the family's sleeping quarters upstairs. Making the most of the dead space beneath the stairs, Mika and Anna-Mari have created a casual plush seating area that connects the dining zone with the living area. The staircase's timber handrails, open treads and glass balustrades enhance the sense of light from the full-height windows. Sitting opposite the charcoal-grey walls, the large windows frame the view of the neighbouring woodlands.

## 4 | HOT SEATS

A curated collage of original artworks – on loan from a local collector – is smartly arranged on a wall in the dining space, framed by the dramatic backdrop. An expansive timber table was made to order by a local carpentry company; its rugged simplicity is offset by the understated elegance of Hay's 'About A Chair' chairs upholstered in tactile grey wool that suits Finland's cooler climate.

**1.** Entry
**2.** WC
**3.** Kitchen
**4.** Dining area
**5.** Living area
**6.** Outdoor entry
**7. & 8.** Utility area
**9.** Garage
**10.** Outdoor terrace
**11.** Guest bedroom
**12.** TV area
**13.** Josefina's bedroom
**14.** Bathroom & adjoining WC
**15.** Walk-in robe and spiral staircase
**16.** Master bedroom
**17.** Sauna




# "We were hoping for a house with a spacious feel and large windows" MIKA OINONEN, HOMEOWNER



## 5 | LUXE LOUNGING

The upstairs lobby functions as a retreat and television room. Instead of sofas, two luxuriously spacious modern chaise longues were chosen, while the TV cabinet was made to measure. The dark grey wall colour is featured throughout the house, allowing a strong visual connection between all the rooms. The glass wall panels make the most of available light, an important consideration in this part of Finland, which only enjoys six hours of daylight during winter.




## 6 | SMART LOOKS

Interior designers Johanna Salminen and Kati Vuoelea worked on the project from the start and created a chic and refined look for Mika and Anna-Mari's home. In the master bedroom, a panelled timber wall serves as both bedhead and backing for the walk-in robe behind. Layers of linen in varying shades of grey on the bed soften the black and white tones of the room's surfaces. An antique rug underneath adds more texture.

Copper pendant lights are dotted throughout the house, adding elegance and a point of difference to the home's signature monochromatic palette.

**"This turnkey project involved an architect designing the building and designers taking care of the interior spaces"** MIKA OINONEN, HOMEOWNER



## 7 | IN THE DETAILS

Timeless materials were chosen in both the bathroom and kitchen, including timber, stone, concrete and patterned tiles. In the bathroom, clean white cabinetry in a high-gloss finish provides a counterbalance to the more ornate presence of handmade Moroccan tiles, used on the floor and feature wall. The same graphic tiles were used on the kitchen floor and in the utility room, visually uniting all the hard-working areas of the home.



The home's tonal palette creates a strong foundation so personality is added via hits of metallic and layered textures. 'Clean & Protect' interior low sheen **paints** in White Disclosure, $55.50/4L, and Kara Sea, $59.90/4L, British Paints, britishpaints.com.au.

'5 GREAT FINDS' AND 'PAINT PALETTE' PRODUCT SOURCING: LIANA HAKIM. PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

**5 GREAT FINDS**

**1**

Nuevo Living 'Sadie 4' **pendant lamp**, US$440, Urban Living, urbanliving.us.





**2**

Muuto 'Around' **table**, from $559, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au.

**3**

Leff 'Then' **clock**, $199, Top3 By Design, top3.com.au.





**4**

14 Ora Italiana 'Fusion' **tiles** in Blue India, $55 each, Signorino Tile Gallery, signorino.com.au.



**5**

Hay 'About A Chair' **chair**, $542, Cult, cultdesign.com.au.



**LIVING AREA** Owner Katriina changes up the chic vignettes on top of this cabinet regularly. **SECOND LIVING AREA (opposite)** The informal living area upstairs is furnished with a sofa from Adea and a coffee table made by Katriina's husband Marko. A sheepskin, throw and rug up the cosy factor, particularly as the large windows frame the chilly outdoor view.

# guiding light

A couple has built their dream home on a plot in southern Finland, ticking off everything on their combined wishlist

WORDS **JONNA KIVILAHTI** PHOTOGRAPHY **KRISTA KELTANEN/LIVING INSIDE**



## cheat sheet

**Who lives here:** Stay-at-home mum Katriina Kerttula-Hiippavuori; her husband Marko, a building company owner; and sons Edvin, 3; and Elias, 2.
**Style of house:** A newly built stone house in Masku, Finland, with three bedrooms and one bathroom (with Finnish sauna).



**DINING AREA (left)** The family gathers around the large dining table every day. Katriina has just made carrot and ginger soup with focaccia. **KITCHEN (below)** Marko and Katriina designed the cooking zone themselves and the handle-free cabinets were made in Finland. Above the island bench are two Artek 'A110 Hand Grenade' pendant lights. **LIVING AREA (opposite)** A pair of '60s armchairs brings a deep caramel brown tone to the main living area's subtle colour scheme. The armchairs were originally owned by Katriina's grandmother. Marko crafted the coffee table that matches the lines and proportions of the seating. The shagpile rug is a welcoming warm touch.

**When the right home** proved too difficult to find, Finnish couple Katriina and Marko decided to build themselves the house of their dreams, making the most of Marko's skills as a builder and Katriina's sense of style for the interiors. Now their two-storey stone home – which took 18 months to complete from start to finish – offers plenty of space for the family's growing needs, as well as a few things from their wishlist.

**Katriina, why did you and Marko decide to build your home?**

We were living in a loft apartment in the centre of Turku in south-west Finland, which we had just finished renovating. However, we still needed more space, and we had been looking for a unique property for a long time. The cost of renovating potential properties was so high that we realised we'd be able to build ourselves a home for the same price. We then found the right plot of land in Masku, just outside Turku. We knew we wanted a stone house from the start. The building process was smooth, as Marko works in the field. We hear that other people have problems waiting for tradesmen, but this never affected us, as when we were waiting for the windows to arrive, for instance, Marko would carry on with some other part of the project. Being in charge of the building work made this possible and also helped us keep costs down.





### *value buy*

A large patterned cushion is a comfy addition to any seat. 'Stockholm' cushion, $29.99, IKEA, ikea.com.au.




"We have a lot of white, which is softened with grey and different types of timber" KATRIINA KERTTULA-HIIPPAVUORI, OWNER



**OPEN-PLAN LIVING** The ground level is defined by this expansive kitchen, dining and living zone. A sculptural Normann Copenhagen 'Norm 69' light illuminates the dining table that Marko created, which is surrounded by Kartell 'Lizz chairs. The concrete floor has been given a lightly polished look with Pandomo Floor finish.

**What elements did you want to include in your home?** We both sketched our ideas and dreams down on a piece of paper. Marko created all the plans and had a clear vision for the must-have elements for the house from the start: geothermal heating, large windows, spacious living areas and interesting materials. We picked Pandomo Floor finish, which has a concrete feel and is easy to maintain. It is available in every possible shade, and we chose ours from a blend of different tones. We went for white-lacquered parquetry flooring for the staircase and in the bedrooms.

**What dreams did you put into practice with this house?** We managed to turn all of our dreams into reality. The spacious living areas downstairs and the more private areas upstairs were on both of our wishlists. The kitchen and living area forming a single, larger space was my wish. We also had room to include another more informal living room upstairs – we were after large rooms that weren't cut off by corridors. A walk-in-closet in the bedroom was also on my list. Marko made a large concrete table for the terrace at the back of the house, providing plenty of space for bigger gatherings. It's lovely to dip in the hot tub on the terrace after enjoying a sauna. Marko wanted to equip the house with an audio system, which we found from Bose.

**Did you catch the building bug?** Everything went so well that Marko is still considering the idea of building another house one day. But, right now, we are enjoying our finished home. After finishing the house, Marko continued building furniture and patios. When a need arises, we always consider whether we could build it ourselves rather than rushing to the shops.

**Were there any surprises during the build?** Maybe understanding the whole project! There are so many small and bigger things to take care of through the building process, especially when you build your home yourself. Some things, such as the right locations for lights, have to be decided quite early on. It's not very easy to make decisions about lamps when you don't even have anything else but bare walls, a floor and roof!

**How did you manage to create such a warm feel in your home, despite using materials that are often considered cold?** The colour palette makes a huge difference. We've renovated a couple of homes before this one, refining our own style in the process. We have a lot of white, which is softened with grey and different types of timber. The surrounding natural landscapes bring a splash of colour through the large windows. The wooden staircase and the concrete feel of Pandomo flooring also bring a sense of warmth. Some of the furniture came with us from our previous home, but we did need quite a few new pieces, too.

avxhome.se



### *paint match*

For a clean white with a touch of grey, try 'Clean & Protect' interior low sheen paint in Infinity White, $55.50/4L, British Paints, 132 525.

It's a blend of pieces from my grandma's house, new and modern designs, and flea market finds. As we were after something unique, we went through a little more trouble with the tables in our home – Marko made all three of them! The square dinner table situated cosily near the fireplace has enough space for eight people.

**How does the home suit you and your family's lifestyle?** Dividing the house over two floors according to different functions has been a good solution. Downstairs are the more practical rooms including the kitchen, dining area, living area, a utility room, a workroom and a cellar – the cellar is a massive storage space at the moment. Upstairs are the more private spaces – an informal living area, the kids' room, our bedroom, sauna and bathroom. We spend most of the days downstairs before retreating upstairs in the evening. As Edvin and Elias get bigger, we'll probably spend more time playing upstairs.

**How about on more festive occasions?** The downstairs zone is perfect for a party. The living area offers plenty of space for dinner guests and larger get-togethers. In summer, we have even more space, as we can entertain on the patios on both sides of the house.

**What are your favourite moments at home?** Lounging downstairs is probably the best thing. The large windows bring the outside in. The fireplace is in use every day, providing a lovely atmosphere whether having dinner at the table or cosying up on the sofa.



**CORRIDOR (left)** The only corridor in the house leads to the bedrooms. **MASTER BEDROOM** The sloped ceiling creates a distinctive feel in this sleeping zone. A Hay 'Loop' coat stand keeps everyday jackets in order, working in conjunction with the walk-in robe. A simple bed, dressed in gridded bedlinen, with matching bedsides is in line with the rest of the home's understated style.



### *bright idea*

Hanging a pair of lights from the ceiling enhances the uncluttered feel of this bedroom.

## postcard from Finland

**Our favourite restaurants are...** Katriina: In Turku city. In Masku, there are only about 10,000 citizens, which makes it a peaceful place to live but it is quite small. So if we go out, restaurants like Tintå (tinta.fi), Blanko (blanko.net), Panini (ravintolapanini.fi) and Mami (mami.fi) are worth visiting. You should also see the beautiful Aura river, which flows through the town."



## *value buy*

These hooks make a great feature on a plain wall. Muuto 'Dots' coat hooks, from $30 each, Living Edge, livingedge.com.au.

## get the look



Pre-finished **lining board** in Distressed White, from $85.48/sqm, Glosswood, glosswood.com.au.



Putty was applied to the powder room walls to create a stucco effect.

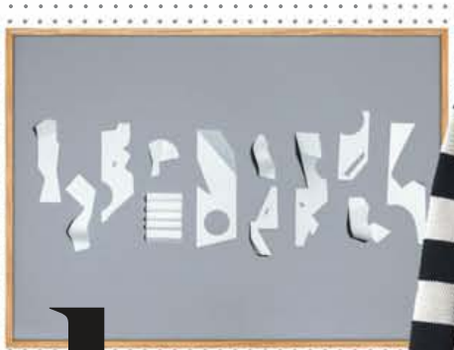
**EDVIN AND ELIAS'S ROOM (opposite)** The combination of grey and white tones is softened by the timber flooring. A crochet rug is a tactile addition, as are the 'Fillsta' pendant lights from IKEA. **POWDER ROOM (right)** The powder room walls were treated with putty while the timber panelling behind the toilet conceals the toilet cistern and adds another dimension to the white palette.



## Joseph's tips on making white on white work

**+ Texture is key** with a white-on-white look – a variety of rough, smooth and glossy is a good starting point.
**+ Don't match your whites** – using a tonal range of whites and greys will create depth and highlight details.
**+ If you're feeling** as if the missing piece in your white-on-white room is a straight jacket, try throwing in timber or a flash of soft colour to add a little warmth.
**+ You don't have to stick** to one white paint on your walls throughout your home. Test different white tones in each room – light changes everything!

**5 GREAT FINDS**



**1** *Printables* **print** by Marsha Golemac and Brooke Holm, $950 (unframed), Modern Times, moderntimes.com.au.



**2** 'Striped' **throw**, $179, Aura By Tracie Ellis, aurahome.com.au.



**3** Hay 'Loop' **stand**, $364, Cult, cultdesign.com.au.



**4** Normann Copenhagen 'Norm 69' **pendant lamp**, $137, District, district.com.au.



**5** 'Woodstack' **chair**, from $290, Nomi, nomi.com.au.

'5 GREAT FINDS' PRODUCT SOURCING: DANIELLE SELIG. PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAIT) SAM McADAM-COOPER

DREAM IT. DESIGN IT. DO IT.

# opposites attract

## The owners of this historical home bid farewell to a heritage-style extension and welcome a new era with an expansive modern living area

WORDS **CLARE PATIENCE** PHOTOGRAPHY **PETER BENNETTS**




**OPEN-PLAN LIVING** Black joinery has been used to connect spaces and accentuate the shifts in ceiling height. "The existing brick walls that connect the old and new spaces have been lightly bagged to showcase the texture," says the project's architect Melissa Bright. The limed timber ceiling boards provide warmth and soften the polished concrete floor.




**Who lives here:** Sally and Robert, two full-time professionals; and their 25-year-old daughter.
**Style of home:** A large single-storey late-Victorian/early-Edwardian home in Melbourne's inner-city suburb of Kew with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a pool and cabana.
**The project and budget:** The problem was a dated 1980s extension out the back. The 10-month renovation has added new rear living spaces to complement the proportions of the existing building and now connects the home to the garden and pool. The pool and landscaping were not initially part of the budget and were added towards the end. Even though there was a tight limit on the renovation, the budget was exceeded by 10 per cent.

## ON THE OUTSIDE

From the front, this grand home had all the confidence and great bone structure of a gorgeous Edwardian build. And there was a lot to love on the inside for this family: spacious bedrooms, a north-facing backyard with pool and a great location in Melbourne's leafy-street cool spot of Kew. But connected to the rear stood a sad, sloping series of badly planned additions from the 1980s, which clumsily tried to reproduce the period style of the house. "The back was deteriorating, poky and it really detracted from the front of the home," explains owner Sally. "We wanted to make a stronger connection between the interior and our backyard and pool. Plus, we needed a more functional kitchen and living area." In essence, the family wanted to add an extra layer of functionality and warmth, updating the space while also paying respect to the building's original aesthetic.



## the woodboard

# DREAM IT.

Flicking through a newspaper, Sally spied a renovation that proved her dreams were possible. "It was a beautiful home, I loved what they had achieved," she says. She put down the paper, called the architect responsible, Melissa Bright of Make Architecture (makearchitecture.com.au), and booked in a consultation. "I felt really confident Mel would understand our needs. I wanted a space out the back that wasn't dated, something fresh and uplifting," says Sally. "I was happy to hand creative reign to Mel, but we had a strict budget!" Melissa's first impression was the need to create "a sense of spaciousness without the use of big spaces," says the architect. "We devised a plan to address the family's needs and tie this to the home's history."

## Sally and Robert's wishlist

**+ renovate living area/dining/lounge** The front of the home has generous spaces and rooms, but this is lost at the back – part of the day-to-day frustrations of the home. We want to open up the back, mirroring the proportions of the front

**+ a new laundry and bathroom** For better functionality and a sense of escape

**+ improve the outdoor area, including the pool and dining zone** The kidney-shaped pool is a difficult design to work with, and it's situated snugly up to the back of the house. Install a new pool fence and decking that creates a better connection between indoors and outdoors

**+ a warm and contemporary feel** The new extension needs to work well with the existing house's period features, but also have a modern look via design, layout and furniture



**top floor** Initially, the family hoped for a highly polished single-colour floor, but when the work began it turned out a little different. After it was polished, the surface revealed flecks and aggregate colour. "But we really love it now," says Sally.

MUUTO PENDANT LIGHT, SURROUNDING, SURROUNDING.COM.AU. BRICKS, AUSTRAL BRICKS, AUSTRALBRICKS.COM.AU. SOFA, JARDAN, JARDAN.COM.AU. INAX TILES, ARTEDOMUS, ARTEDOMUS.COM.AU



**DINING AREA (opposite)** Statement pendant lights and custom-toned Thonet chairs add a new dimension to the neutral look. **KITCHEN** Black cabinetry creates a sense of lightness, almost floating in contrast to limed wooden details and soft-toned tiles and ceiling. Oriented to the north, the room also enjoys an abundance of sunlight that comes flooding through the oversized windows.

**"I wanted to create a sense of spaciousness without the use of big spaces. We devised a plan to address the family's needs"** MELISSA BRIGHT, ARCHITECT



**the details** The original home features cornices, skirting boards and hard-plaster wall finishes, which were continued into the new extension. A timber-clad ceiling was chosen to add further texture to the more modern look.

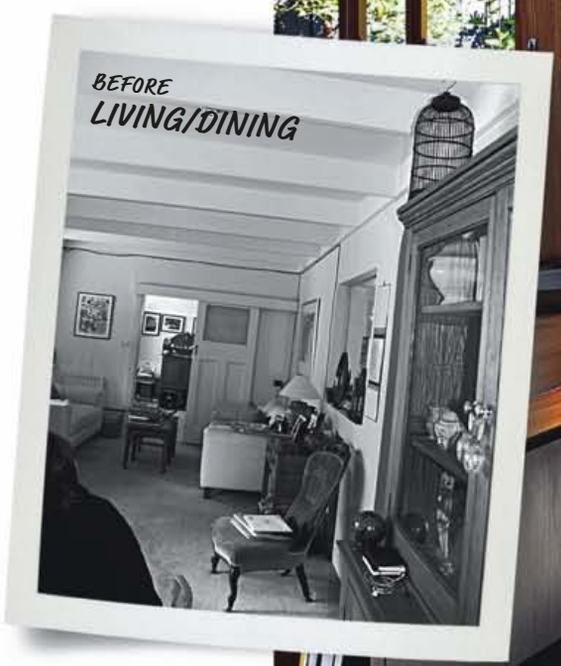
**HALLWAY (left)** By focusing on the connection between the two parts of the home, the problem of matching a heritage home with a new extension has been cleverly solved. "There's a point where the period details end and the new materials take centre stage," says Melissa. **LIVING AREA (right)** Deep timber sills, both in and out, become spots to sit and enjoy the sun. "When we're entertaining, it's lovely to watch our guests interact with the spaces and sit on the sills with a glass of wine," says Sally.

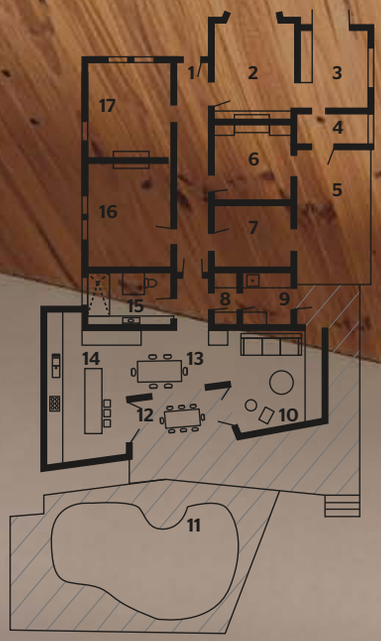
# DESIGN IT.

The warm-hearted design of the living area and kitchen has added a whole new lifestyle to the home. Keen to avoid the large 'box on back' approach, the new spaces are intimate and provide the family with the things they wanted for a happy life. The key was to focus on the point where the two different parts of the house meet and to establish a relationship between the old and new sections. "We referenced the solidity of the front of the home but decided on a contrast using charcoal bricks to sit next to the solid red brick, which was used in the period building," says Melissa. "Using the same material, but in a deliberately contrasting manner, the design delineates between old and new both with its contemporary form and colour."

Internally, careful consideration was given to how the two sections could marry. Skirting boards, decorative cornices and hard-plaster wall finishes of the original dwelling have "natural stopping points" as they connect with new construction. "Subtle references to the old house are brought into the contemporary extension," says Melissa. "We opted for lining-board ceiling cladding, deep timber reveals to window openings and high ceiling volumes, and the rear brick wall of the existing house has also become the internal wall of the new living spaces."

The renovated living area now wraps around a central courtyard opening up to the north corner of the garden. The complex curves of the swimming pool were contained in tactile wooden decking, and the fence adds a sense of casual living. "The new design means when we have guests over, they'll perch on one of the window seats or on the deck. There are plenty of spots to lean on or sit in, there's a sort of cafe style to it all," says Sally. "It's just stunning and a relaxing style of living and entertaining."






**1.** Entry
**2.** Master bedroom
**3.** Walk-in robe
**4.** Ensuite
**5.** Terrace
**6.** Bedroom
**7.** Bedroom
**8.** Storage
**9.** Laundry
**10.** Living area
**11.** Swimming pool
**12.** Outdoor entertaining area
**13.** Dining area
**14.** Kitchen
**15.** Bathroom
**16.** Formal dining area
**17.** Sitting room



***tile tones*** The Inax 'Yohen Border' tiles from Artedomus feature under the mirror and on the bathroom's central pillar. It is the blending of tiles of different shapes, sizes and shades that gives this space an interesting, luxurious texture.



# DO IT.

The initial conversation may have begun in 2009 but the family pulled back from committing to the project until 2013. "We just got caught up in family life," says Sally. "We refocused in 2013 and that's when building started." The internal reno wrapped up in August of 2014, and the landscaping and pool work were completed by January 2015. Determined to stay on site during the building process to keep within their budget, the family, luckily, had a second kitchen and bathroom on site in the pool-side cabana. This freed up one of the key stresses of a renovation – accommodation – while the new facilities in-house, such as the kitchen/living and bathroom areas, took shape.

The project was kept on track by tailoring the scope and size of the build, keeping it as simple as possible to maintain a level of quality. Towards the end of the renovation, however, the family added in the pool and landscaping elements, convinced that it would further connect inside to out. "It did go pretty smoothly," says Sally, "Mainly because we handed a lot to Mel and she was incredibly capable. She also a found fantastic builder, Andrew Jaksch of 4AD Construction (0412 100 685), who listened to our needs and was good at communicating with us."

But, as with all renovations, surprises still popped up on major decisions. "The concrete floor didn't quite turn out as we initially wanted it to," says Sally. In the initial planning stages, conversations focused on a highly polished single-colour concrete floor, but after it was polished, the surface revealed flecks and aggregate colour. "We had lots of conversations about it," she adds. "But we really love it now. It's interesting and it was just a process of adjusting our expectations." 10

**BATHROOM (above)** Tactile appeal is drawn into the bathroom thanks to a mix of large-scale floor tiles and smaller wall options. A muted colour scheme amps up the sophisticated feel. **OUTDOORS (right)** "We really like the Whitco sliding sash stays for these windows," says Melissa. "Unlike bi-folds, just one or two can be opened. They work well to catch the breeze and direct it into the house." Timber frames contrast with the black bricks.



***lessons learnt***

**"We learned a lot about patience; things will go wrong but it's not the end of the world. I think the best thing we did was hire Mel – she really got us through the complications and came up with great solutions"** SALLY, OWNER

## the best bits

+ **smart design** "The functionality of the kitchen," says Sally.
+ **new outlook** "I love the windows opening out to the north garden and pool. They highlight the constantly changing light and patterns, and the sills become seats for our guests to enjoy the sun."
+ **elegant finishes** "The warmth of the wood and the textural quality of the finishes create a very calming space."
+ **great heights** "I love the interesting changes in the height of the ceilings between the different spaces."

*renovation 101*

# suburban family

## For one couple, their current home might actually be too big! A warren of unruly rooms means our Panel needs to help them rework the space

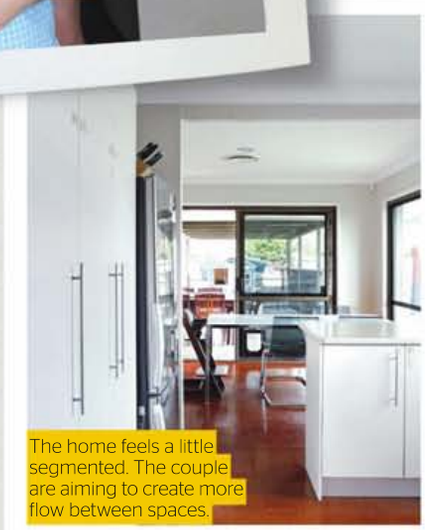
PHOTOGRAPHY **ANASTASIA KARIOFYLLIDIS**



MELLISA AND THE KIDS



A new kitchen is high on the family's reno wishlist as the current one is dated.



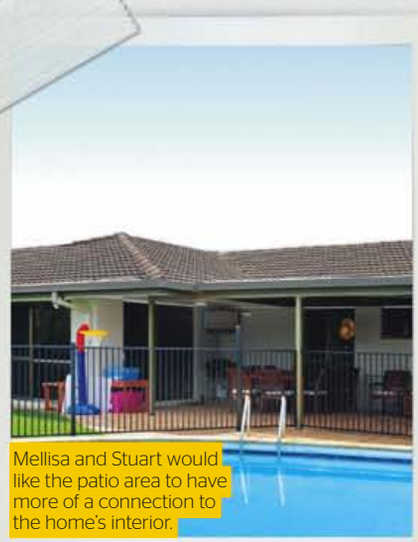
The home feels a little segmented. The couple are aiming to create more flow between spaces.

### WHAT NEEDS TO GO

Here's what Mellisa and Stuart don't like about their home at the moment

- ☒ the disconnected 'rabbit warren' room layout
- ☒ darkness! The low ceiling makes it hard for the light to reach the centre
- ☒ the outdoor area is their favourite space, but needs a style overhaul
- ☒ ugly kitchen with orange flooring!

# home



Mellisa and Stuart would like the patio area to have more of a connection to the home's interior.

## CHEAT SHEET

**Who lives here:** Mellisa White, her husband, Stuart and their two boys, Lucas, 3, and Carter, 1.
**Style of house:** A single-storey five-bedroom, three-bathroom home with two living areas in the water-locked suburb of Jindalee, Qld.
**How long have they lived here?** About three years.

### the story so far

This Panel visit was unlike any other we've done. For the very first time, the site inspection was not about trying to make the most of a small space. In fact, Mellisa and Stuart have quite the opposite problem. The couple bought the home – having moved from a quaint Queenslander – knowing they could change it to meet a growing family's needs. Now that they're living there, they're unsure how to tackle the 'rabbit warren' of rooms. The property just goes and goes, one room opening into another, and another.

### what's not working?

Having all those rooms is a problem in several ways. For Mellisa, it's hard to keep track of the children. "It's really no help to have everyone so far away from each other," she says. But it also means that there's no central area to live in. In addition, the family is struggling with a plan to create a common look and feel throughout the home. "It currently has a very '90s mood," says Mellisa, who has done a great job with Carter's bedroom, but tackling a whole new combined kitchen/living/dining space feels like more of a challenge.

### what do they need?

Mellisa and Stuart would like to like to merge the formal dining room, casual dining and kitchen into one usable area, but they also need some help with defining zones within the spaces. Currently, the kids' toys and furniture do that.

### what would they like?

While the inside of the home needs some help, Mellisa also knows that the Queensland lifestyle is all about the outdoors. Currently, the family spends a lot of time in the backyard pool area, and although they're happy with the pool space, they would like the internal renovation to incorporate the patio area.



## THE REALTOR

**Jan Laing**
Co-owner, RE/MAX Australia Real Estate Jindalee, remax.com.au

### the opportunity

The best news for Mellisa and Stuart is that Jan thinks they've bought a great property. It's a much sought-after area that's close to town, has great schools and local scenic attractions. The locals move in then stay – or tend to move locally. Even better, the home is at the end of a nice, quiet street at the top of the hill. In 2011, the area experienced some reasonably bad flooding, but luckily this great cul-de-sac was unaffected.

Jan is excited at the prospect of the renovation, but wants to be clear about the purpose before she recommends a financial commitment. From her perspective, the market is steady and, if they do it right, Mellisa and Stuart would get their investment back straightaway.

She recommends looking at the kitchen and bathrooms, and to make sure the outdoor area renovation is of a high standard. It's one of those elements that is a real market-changer in the area.

## THE BUDGET

$60k-$80k

The budget Mellisa and Stuart have allocated will certainly cover off the main items of the renovation. However, if they take Andrew and Wayd's advice – making complete roof line changes – they might need to add more to the kitty. Whether that's worthwhile long-term then comes down to how long they plan to be here. It's a question many renovators face and there's no real answer. A family home can be worth a lot more than 'market value'.

*ADVICE PROVIDED IS OF A GENERAL NATURE AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS A STARTING POINT. LOOK INTO YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS BEFORE STARTING ON ANY RENOVATION WORK



## THE ARCHITECT

**Andrew Benn**
Director, Benn + Penna Architecture, bennandpenna.com

### the big picture

As Andrew and the team entered this home, the overwhelming impression was gloomy due to the the low ceiling height and lack of light. "It feels a bit like a garage in here," says Andrew. And you know exactly what he means; this modern home spreads right across the extra-wide block and feels spacious in that there are lots of rooms, but it also feels restricted. The best bit according to Andrew? "It's not going to be too hard to make a massive difference."

### the first option

There are a few ways to let in the light and brighten the mood. Firstly, installing some generous skylights in the centre of the home would be ideal. "This is a wide house, with no light reaching the middle spaces, which are a long way from the 'perimeter' light," says Andrew.

### raise the roof?

While raising the roof seems like the obvious option, there are costs that go with that. Andrew would love to see the roof line moved higher to create light wells in the centre of the building. If that's not achievable, the next best option would be to raise the ceiling height in the kitchen alone then extend that out to the outdoor area – this solution would certainly keep costs down as it wouldn't involve disturbing the foundations.

### rooms that are too big

Inside, Andrew comments that it's interesting how rooms can be too big. "The scale is weird. The big footprint – with formal areas and low ceilings – is really not helping." He recommends working with Lisa to create small pockets of interest in each of the oversized spaces.



**lighten up** Andrew's primary piece of advice is to adjust the height of the roof line to create light wells, but he knows that it could make a big impact on the budget. A cheaper option would be to install skylights, as seen in this space, to brighten the home and create an airy feel.



## THE STYLIST

**Lisa Koehler**
ISCD educator, stylist and interior decorator

### size matters

Lisa has a few suggestions for how the couple can make the most of their space. "It's important to match the scale of the furniture with the scale of the room," she says. "The key is to select a range of pieces – some large anchors teamed with a few smaller ones – as lots of little pieces of furniture will make a big room feel cluttered. Think beautiful tall bookcases – custom joinery that stretches all the way to the ceiling – and large artwork or pendant lights hung at eye level to bring the scale down and connect to the furniture and ceiling."

### zoning rights

The most luxurious layout for a spacious living area is to have sofas "floating off the walls" with a large rug that sits under them, advises Lisa. "It's important that the rug is large enough for the entire sofa to be placed on top as the rug helps ground the space and creates a clear seating zone." Lisa suggests the distance between the couches not be more than 2–2.5 metres; any wider and it becomes disconnected and awkward when you entertain. As a bonus, this layout means the traffic flow is on the outer edges and connects more easily to other rooms.

A modular sofa works best in a large room, as it's one piece that creates a zone of its own. It also avoids the awkward area between the two sofas, which often looks cluttered.

### find your focus

When planning any room, it's important to have a focal point so as soon as you enter, your eye has somewhere to rest. Lisa says that in a big space, it's a good idea to create a second and third focal point. "It's about creating visual peaks with a calm area for your eye to rest in between," she says.

### so what about colour?

"Adding colour and pattern is a great way to liven up a big space, however, you need to be careful it doesn't start to feel staged or forced." says Lisa. Try pattern in wallpaper, rugs, artwork or cushions. When using pattern in cushions, "it's important to balance big and small prints, varying the complexity of those used together".

**Tip:** If you go for a long modular sofa, try joining together a series of small occasional tables to cater for guests and fill the void.

PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAITS) NIGEL LOUGH. (KITCHEN) ELIZABETH ALLNUT. *ADVICE PROVIDED IS OF A GENERAL NATURE AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS A STARTING POINT. LOOK INTO YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS BEFORE STARTING ON ANY RENOVATION WORK










**1.** Pietro Russo 'Romboidale' **shelving unit**, $17,710, Criteria, criteriacollection.com.au. **2.** Ay Illuminate 'Lump' **pendant light**, from $1040, Spence & Lyda, spenceandlyda.com.au. **3.** *Cavetto* **painting** by Michael Cusack, $15,000, Karen Woodbury Gallery, karenwoodburygallery.com. **4.** 'Tribute' **coffee table**, $2600, Zuster, zuster.com.au. **5.** 'Corco' **floor rug** in Malay Abaca, $415/sqm, International Floor Coverings Australia, interfloors.com.au.



## THE BUILDER

**Wayd Munro**
Focusbuild,
focusbuild.com.au

### the biggest opportunity

As with many modern homes built post-Queenslander, Wayd's main concern is the concrete slab floor. It's not an issue per se, but it certainly impacts how difficult or easy it is to change the layout. "It's one complete slab throughout, which means it's hard to move any plumbing," he says. "These guys can relocate the rooms however they like within the footprint, but they'll need to keep the services where they are now." To move them would be a very expensive process.

### what's the upside?

The upside of the concrete, however, is that if they want to modernise the floor, they could pull up all the cork and carpet, and polish the slab. It would be a hard-working family-floor option. At the same time, you could fix any uneven floor levels, where hallways run into rooms, and the like. Currently, the entry is tiled. These tiles can easily be removed to reveal the concrete underneath.

### moving out

When it comes to the outdoors, Wayd sees this as the biggest opportunity for change. Currently, there's a mishmash of roof heights and building materials on both the ceiling and floor leading out to the pool area. Pulling up the paving and selecting a material that connects the new indoor space and the pool tiling will immediately give a lift. He suggests that shade cloth or translucent roof sheeting in parts of the current roofing would be a quick and easy way to change the look and feel, and add more light to the house – they shouldn't need council approval. If Mellisa and Stuart were to install bi-fold doors, it would address the change in levels between indoor and out, and connect the areas to make it feel like a single large room.

## CONCRETE OPTIONS

Polishing the concrete sounds like a brilliant idea, but can you do any of it yourself to save costs? "Pulling up carpet that has been laid on a concrete floor is easier than you think," says Wayd. "Just start in a corner with a screwdriver, pull up the edge and away you go."

"The speed edge – the spiky wooden strip that holds down the edge of the carpet – will require a 'jimmy' bar or similar to prise the strip off the concrete. There may be chips where the nails were, but they can be easily patched, which the concrete polisher can do before they start polishing."

"The process of pulling up timber or tiles will be harder, but use the same theory and you'll be fine. A 'jimmy' bar or small chipper will prise up the covering, but be careful not to dig into the concrete," says Wayd. "The polisher will be able to remove any excess remaining glue, too."

**BED & BATH NEWS**

# peace & quiet

## Update these relaxing zones with a selection of lovely pieces

EDITED BY **JOSEPH GARDNER & MATILDA DUFFECY**



### SMILE ON

Kip & Co has collaborated with Jessica Rowe to create a colour-happy pink-fringed cushion ($79) to support R U OK? Day. All profits from the sales going to the charity. Visit kipandco.net.au.






### *good scents*

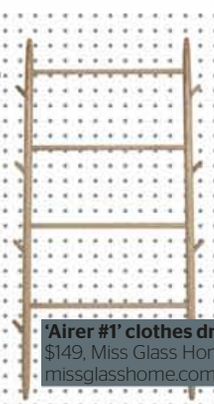
Freshen up with the sweet smell of Musq's lemon myrtle and mandarin handwash ($25) which also features eucalyptus, tea tree and rosewood, too. Visit musq.com.au for more details.

**DARK & HANDSOME** Zucchetti's 'Closer' showerhead's wow-factor look is inspired by a lamp – what a stunner! It's $2695 – visit candana.com.au for info.

**3 GREAT FINDS**



**Garden Trading 'X' clothes dryer**, $105, Heaven In Earth, heavenineearth.com.au.



**'Airer #1' clothes dryer**, $149, Miss Glass Home, missglasshome.com.



**Wooden clothes dryer**, NZ$125, Father Rabbit, fatherrabbit.com.

## MY BEDROOM...



### Sandy Aras
Category manager, Forty Winks

**My bedroom is a place of...** Comfort and tranquillity. Every piece of furniture, accessory and artwork has been bought over time and holds a warm memory that helps me unwind and reflect after a hectic day.

**My top three bedroom essentials are...** A beautifully crafted bed that will stand the test of time; a super-comfortable mattress for quality sleep; and stylish and practical bedside tables. The rest of the room's style aesthetic will evolve as time goes by.

**The most overlooked design element of a bedroom is...** A chair or upholstered bench that enhances the overall style of the room or is a statement piece. It's also an easy way to create a vignette – a cosy space away from the bed that's still within your haven.

*Visit fortywinks.com.au for bedroom options.*

PHOTOGRAPHY: (MAIN) MAREE HOMER



### *lead the way*

The Zuzunaga 'Route' towels come in a range of colours and feature a design of a pixelated underground map. They're $99 each – visit meizai.com.au.

**For inspiring bathroom style ideas, visit *insideout.com.au/renovations/bathroom.***

# SEAMLESS DESIGN



Minimal 4mm gaps now surround your fridge, either in real stainless steel or seamlessly integrated into your kitchen cabinetry. With flush-fit design the new Slide-In range fits easily into existing kitchen spaces allowing a smooth, clean look to your dream kitchen.

Available from Spring 2015
Model shown RS90A1

Fisher&Paykel

fisherpaykel.com/thekitchentools

7327_IO_FPGA



## cheat sheet

**Who lives here:** Communications consultant Janet Nagly and her husband Wayne Leathem, a scrub nurse.
**Style of house:** A two-storey three-bedroom, two-bathroom renovated brick miner's cottage in Sydney's inner west.
**$$$** Janet and Wayne had the ultimate budget after winning an $80k kitchen makeover from Fisher & Paykel, including appliances valued at $20k.
The whole process took approximately five months, including consulting and build time.

**BEFORE & AFTER**

# sweet success

## This Sydney couple worked with some of the industry's best after winning an $80,000 dream kitchen

WORDS **LYNNE TESTONI** STYLING **DANIELLE SELIG** PHOTOGRAPHY **CRAIG WALL**



**For Wayne and Janet,** a trip to *Grand Designs* Live Expo led to them finally having the kitchen they'd always wished for. "Most people living in the inner city have to manage working within a small space," says Janet, a keen foodie who was making do in a tiny, cluttered galley space. After being selected as a finalist for the Fisher & Paykel (fisherpaykel.com.au) kitchen makeover competition, the couple prepared a moodboard for the judges: *Inside Out*'s editor-in-chief Claire Bradley, Darren Genner and Simona Castagna from Minosa (minosadesign.com) and Frank Iaria of Mint Kitchen Group (mintkitchengroup.com.au). Janet and Wayne's selection of textures and moody colours for their dream kitchen, plus their obvious passion for their cooking and entertaining zone impressed them all. "Janet was so passionate and enthusiastic about how the space could be transformed, I just couldn't wait to see the outcome," says Claire. Then it became all about turning the ideas into reality. "It was a real privilege working with Darren and Simona from Minosa and having their experience in what would work and what wouldn't," says Janet.

ARTWORK: *TWO TUI BIRDS* BY ILYA VOLYKHINE. ARTOFILYA.COM. FRUIT BOWL, URBAN COUTURE. URBANCOUTURE.COM.AU. THE FORTYNINE STUDIO PLATES AND PORCELAIN BEAR BOWL. JARDAN. JARDAN.COM.AU. OPPOSITE: BAMBOO UTENSILS AND KAMASADA IRONWORKS CAST-IRON POT, GINKGO LEAF, GINKGOLEAF.COM.AU. BRASS CANISTER, URBAN COUTURE. AS BEFORE




**BENCHTOP** The 'Aster' porcelain surface was found at Artedomus. "We wanted a slim benchtop that was a million miles from the chunky '70s style," says Janet. "It's elegant and connects the kitchen to the living space."

**STORAGE** Janet's plan for the kitchen was to have a modern, minimal look, so Darren and Simona designed the kitchen to be full of drawers, making the most of the small space. "They are incredible," says Janet. "We store pots and pans, plastic and glass cookware, plus we have two Fisher & Paykel DishDrawers right next to the sink which get a good workout."



**PANTRY** Deep drawers feature throughout the kitchen, and even in the pantry. The addition of soft-close doors provides extra space for spices and pantry essentials.



**CABINETRY** Janet and Wayne's sense of fun comes through in the upper cupboards' colourful inner detail. The couple refer to the upwardly opening doors on these cupboards as the 'Ferrari' doors.



**PALETTE (above)** Janet put together a detailed moodboard of darker tones with warm elements, which inspired the timber and mirror splashback. **DINING AREA (top left)** "I was really worried that the Flos '265' wall lamp from Euroluce would be too big for the space," says Janet, "but it's quite architectural – it makes a real statement."

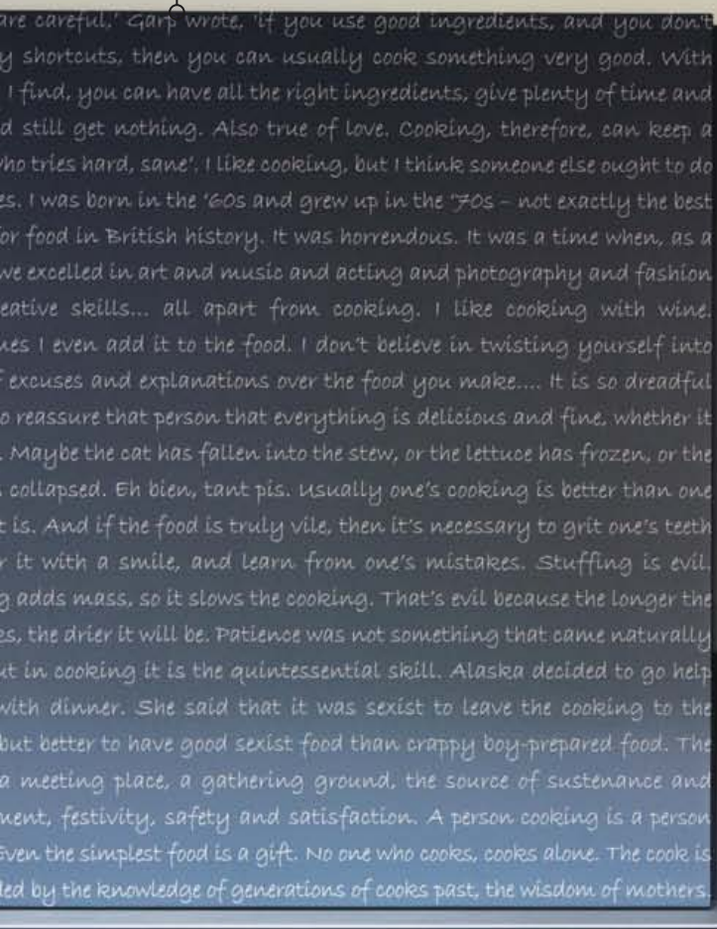



The finished kitchen is a truly integrated part of a much-loved home, with lots of personal touches. Janet wanted to make sure she could display some special items in the entertaining section of the kitchen, which wraps around into the living area. The resulting unit (opposite) is a "modern take on a buffet and hutch," says Janet. The right side is designed for displays, and the door slides across to reveal an extra prep area and shelves. The final decisions on the design came from Janet's original ideas, which the team at Minosa helped develop and shape. "The result is a bold statement that connects the living spaces," she says. She and Wayne are thrilled with the results. "We're just settling in. The rest of the house is what we're going to focus on now," says Janet. And after such a great experience, the couple is thinking of collaborating with Darren and Simona on their bathroom. Watch this space!
*For more details on this kitchen makeover, visit insideout.com.au.*

**"The result is a bold statement that connects the living spaces"** JANET NAGLY, HOMEOWNER

ARTWORK: (THIS PAGE) FISH ETCHING BY MISAKO SUGIYAMA. CONCRETE AND GLASS VASE, URBAN COUTURE, URBANCOUTURE.COM.AU. CONICAL VASE, BOOK BINDER AND RUBBER BOWL, THE MINIMALIST.COM.AU. TRAY, JARDAN, JARDAN.COM.AU

**SLIDING PANEL** Janet collated favourite quotes from writers and chefs talking about food and had them incorporated onto the sliding panel as a custom large-format sticker decal.







**WINE CABINET** As part of the $20k budget allocated to appliances, a Fisher & Paykel wine cabinet was a luxury choice for the couple. Baz the British shorthair cat approves of the new design.

**FRIDGE DRAWERS** These generous panels hide a small bar fridge, which is used for drinks when entertaining guests, as it sits facing the sitting room. **SHELVES** Open shelving above allows Janet to display her favourite cookbooks and artworks.

# MIX AND MATCH INDUCTION WITH GAS



Flexibility with the perfect cooktop solution can now be achieved by combining gas and induction cooktops to create the best of all worlds. Now you can mix and also match. Our selection of gas and induction cooktops in different shapes and sizes can be used together or separately to suit your cooking style, and the Fisher & Paykel kitchen design features of black glass with polished metal trim will complement and enhance any modern kitchen.

Fisher&Paykel

7327_IO_FPGA



PHOTOGRAPHY: (PORTRAIT) BROOKE HOLM

## NEW IDEAS

IKEA has unveiled its new 'Metod' kitchen system, which promises more versatility, increased choice and maximised space when designing kitchens. Visit ikea.com.au for more information.

KITCHEN NEWS

# what's cooking

All the latest products and accessories for a smart kitchen EDITED BY **JOSEPH GARDNER & MATILDA DUFFECY**

## MY KITCHEN...



### David Flack Interior designer, Flack Studio

**My kitchen is a place where I...** Welcome friends, family and guests. I love to entertain around my island bench.

**In my kitchen, I couldn't live without...** Stone benchtops – they're highly functional and beautiful. I love seeing the patina develop.

**The most overlooked design element of a kitchen is...** A practical and spacious pantry/utility area. The kitchens I design are given a large pantry with pocket doors and an internal stone benchtop for the appliances that you don't want cluttering the bench. It becomes a usable space within the larger kitchen area.

**The three essential ingredients to the success of a kitchen's design are...** Good planning and layout; warm and textural materials; and loads of storage for every item.

*To see David's work, visit flackstudio.com.au.*





### LAY OVER

Add texture and interest to your walls with the Mutina 'Tierras Artisanal Little L' terracotta tiles, $10.80 each. They're designed to inspire creative application in different shapes and patterns. Visit academytiles.com.au.

**SINGLE SERVE The Staub 'Mini' cocotte ($124.95 each) represents oven-to-table perfection and you won't have to share! Call (02) 9425 5000 for details.**



## *up the wall*

Jump on the timber panelling trend without breaking the bank – try the 'Herringbone' prefinished wall panels, $85.48/sqm. Head to glosswood.com.au for more information.

## serving boards

3 GREAT FINDS



**Indigo Love 'Precious Gem' marble cheeseboard**, $145, Few And Far, fewandfar.com.au.

**Slate chopping board**, $56, Lightly, lightly.com.au.

**H Skjalm P 'Bidasar' marble platter**, $79, Designstuff, designstuff.com.au.

**For inspiring kitchen style ideas, visit *insideout.com.au/renovations/kitchen*.**



avxhome.se

CRAFT

# *how to make an* arashi tote bag

**Forget the hippie clichés – tie-dyeing is a great way to bring unique pattern into your world. Pepa Martin and Karen Davis, who run Sydney's Shibori textile studio, reveal how you can do so at home with this fun project**

## steps to making an arashi tote bag

### WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Tote bag
- Iron
- Approximately 50cm of plastic plumbing pipe, 10cm in diameter*
- Rubber bands
- Soaking bucket
- Towel
- Paper mask
- Rubber gloves
- Indigo powder
- Sodium hydrosulphite
- Soda ash
- Dye vat large enough to submerge your plumbing pipe
- Spoon
- Dishwashing liquid

* The size of your bag will determine the diameter of your plastic plumbing pipe.

**1** Pre-wash your tote bag to create a good base for dyeing. If you're using a calico bag, it's a good idea to soak it in boiling water to remove the coating that is commonly found on the fabric.

**2** Lay your tote bag on a flat surface and iron out the creases.

**3** Put your pipe diagonally across the bag. Roll your bag around the pipe and secure both ends with rubber bands.



**4** Wrap rubber bands around the pipe at approximately 2.5cm intervals, compressing the bag as you go (see right). Make sure they are tight enough to resist the dye, and double over if necessary. Include the handles to give an all-over finish.

**5** Place the bound pipe in a bucket of water for 30 minutes to soak.



**6** Remove the pipe from the water, squeeze out excess water and dab with a towel.

**7** Prepare your dye vat – fill a tub with 15 litres of warm water. Sprinkle in indigo powder and sodium hydrosulphite. Stir gently. Dissolve soda ash in 30ml of hot water. Slowly add this solution to the vat. Leave for 30 minutes. Submerge the wrapped pipe in the vat and leave for 40 minutes; do not agitate.

**8** Remove the pipe from the dye vat and leave to oxidise for 15 minutes. Rinse under cold water until the water runs clear. Then release the fabric from the pipe, rinse again and wash with dishwashing liquid until the water runs clear.

### safety first!

It is very important that, when dealing with the harsh chemicals and dyes involved with tie-dye, you observe proper health and safety protocols. Your workspace should be in a well-ventilated area. Never breathe in powdered dyes or steam from any chemicals. Always wear a paper mask when dealing with dyes. It is best practice to bleach items outdoors. Do not stand over boiling pots, and use rubber gloves and an apron at all times to protect your skin. Keep a wet towel close at hand to quickly wipe up any spills.




# tie dip dye

Edited extract from *Tie Dip Dye* by Pepa Martin and Karen Davis ($24.99, Quatro Publishing/ Thames & Hudson).

WORDS: PEPA MARTIN AND KAREN DAVIS. PHOTOGRAPHY: LUISA BRIMBLE. STYLING: JOHN MANGILA

# Be a stylist in your own home




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# out



## teaming up
### Cluster one plant species together for maximum impact

Create a green oasis with a line of identical trees. This space, designed by Myles Broad of Eckersley Garden Architecture (e-ga.com.au), showcases a row of *Robinia pseudoacacia* 'Frisia' planted flush with the wall to catch the light and create a textural feature. Mask the built elements with planting to exaggerate your yard's lush feel. Turn the page for more of this Melbourne garden.

PHOTOGRAPHY: PRIYA SCHUBACK



# *new* growth

## Can you create an expansive garden with country appeal in the heart of the city? This Melbourne family did, thanks to a sweeping overhaul of their dated outdoor area

WORDS **ROBIN POWELL** PHOTOGRAPHY **PRIYA SCHUBACK**



## golden days

A bold-coloured, lacy canopy draws you from the terrace, past the pool, and into the garden. Vital to the successful makeover of the space was the replacement of tired and jarring red-brick paving with much more suitable bluestone pavers. "Bluestone is very Melbourne – we're built on it – and the muted colour sits well in the garden," explains landscape designer Myles Broad of Eckersley Garden Architecture (e-ga.com.au), who took on the project. Here, bluestone pavers are broken up with mini mondo grass. More pavers come together to form the entertaining area (opposite) that overlooks the swimming pool, echoing the natural tones scattered throughout the outdoor area as a whole.

**centre stage** Creating a striking canopy comes down to plant choice. *Robinia pseudoacacia* 'Frisia' is ideal as a few side by side look great together and the leaves turn a beautiful golden colour in autumn with a soft paper-like quality.





## green screen

Privacy was a key concern for the family of five. Additional 4.5-metre mature specimens complement existing pencil pines to create a dense screen close to the house, with the spacing becoming looser and more staggered as the garden recedes. Here, the screen is given extra texture with variegated pittosporum and a planting of blue-flowered *Plectranthus ecklonii* and *Heliotropium arborescens* 'Lord Roberts', commonly known as cherry pie for its sweet fragrance.

## on a high

Behind the pool, tall vertical slats disguise the garden-cum-pool shed, softened by falls of Virginia creeper. The owner, Cathy Quinn, is an artist and finds the transformed space so inspiring she has moved her studio into the garden, drawn by the colours, the light and the sense of privacy. "Even though we are so close to the city, I feel like I'm in the country when I'm in the garden," says Cathy.

## stone cold

Bluestone is a unifying element throughout the space, coping the pool, paving the terrace, and forming stepping stones through a tunnel of robinia through to the back. The planting palette contrasts the zingy lime of the robinias with splashes of shade-tolerant blues including *Liriope muscari*, cherry pie and plectranthus. A seasonal hit of white appears from the trumpets of the Philippine lily, *Lilium philippinense*.





"There's not a day goes by that someone in our family doesn't say 'I love our garden!'" CATHY QUINN, OWNER

**lush border** Training Virginia creeper onto stainless-steel yachting wires forms another canopy. Strung between the home's fascia and the garden's side screens, this canopy also shades the pool-side terrace.

## water view

Virginia creeper provides summer shade and autumn colour over the entertaining area. Fine metal-rod fencing surrounds the pool. It seems counterintuitive, but the fence disappears into a garden more effectively than glass because it's permeable, allowing plants and breezes to pass through. As a bonus, it also requires less cleaning – every splash leaves a mark on glass fencing. The pool terrace has become a focus for the family. "It's not too formal – it's welcoming and comfortable," says Cathy.

*To view Cathy's art, visit cathyquinnart.com.*

**GARDEN NEWS**

# outdoor living

## Enjoy precious sunny days with these garden style essentials

EDITED BY **DANIELLE SELIG & VIRGINIA JEN**



### SHAPE UP

Easy simplicity meets sophistication with the new 'Willow' range of pots from The Balcony Garden. These dark beauties come in a range of sizes to suit any space. From $68 each, thebalconygarden.com.au.

### luxe looks

No need to hide the hose in the shed with this spiffy model. The Lepaar 'Gardenlust' hose and hook is also weather-tough. It's $250 from Garden Life – visit gardenlife.com.au.





**INSIDE SCOOP** Toiling away at soil never looked so on trend with this handcrafted Grafa copper scoop (NZ$89) from Everyday Needs, everyday-needs.com.

### all black

Give into your dark side – Tait's 'Flint' outdoor setting is now available in a sleek black finish. 'Flint' table, from $4100; and bench, from $2170 – visit madebytait.com.au for further information.



## bird feeders

**3 GREAT FINDS**

**Vasse Vaught 'Vogeli' bird bath**, $190, Garden Objects, garden-objects.com.



**Birdcabin**, $190, Tait, madebytait.com.au.



**Eva Solo hanging bird feeder**, $153, Top3 By Design, top3.com.au.



### Q+A WITH...



## Alex Rance
Director, Rancescapes

**A garden should offer...** A perfect complement to the house which it surrounds – it should be an extension of the living area and make you want to spend your days in it.

**The three things to consider in planning a small-space garden are...** The size of the plants at maturity – at the nursery, read the labels to make sure the plants aren't going to outgrow your garden. Don't clutter the area with lots of small pots or ornaments – it cuts down on maintenance, as larger pots require less watering. And avoid installing lawns – foot traffic will be concentrated on a much smaller area, making it hard to establish and maintain an attractive lawn.

**Any tips for small-space planting?** Make your garden productive – even the smallest areas can be productive. Plant herbs and vegetables in pots or in the ground and fruit trees in pots or half wine barrels. *Visit rancescapes.com.au.*

PHOTOGRAPHY: (MAIN) HANNAH BLACKMORE

**For inspiring outdoor living ideas, visit *insideout.com.au/renovations/outdoors-pool.***

# sharemystyle



WINNER!

Wow – it would be easy to get comfy in here. Lee's layered look ticks all the style boxes.

# sleeping beauties

## Congratulations to our #sharemystylebedroom category winner!

Lee Talbot (@mavendolls) has won a $2000 Hunting For George gift voucher to spend on the in-house collection

Here are just a few of our favourite entries in the **#sharemystylebedroom** competition category



@dennymayflower



@sirtroublehandmade



@h_and_g_designs

# show us your home!

We love seeing your home style – your pic could even be featured in the magazine

Share a pic of your stylish home, using both the hashtag **#sharemystyle** and the tag **@insideoutmag** on Instagram or Twitter

**share via**




We love Natalie Long's (@bowerhouse) light and bright living area – primed for relaxation!

PHOTOGRAPHY: (TOP, FROM LEFT) LEE TALBOT, TERRI DENYER, BREE JOHNS AND HAILEY MCGINTY; (BOTTOM) NATALIE LONG

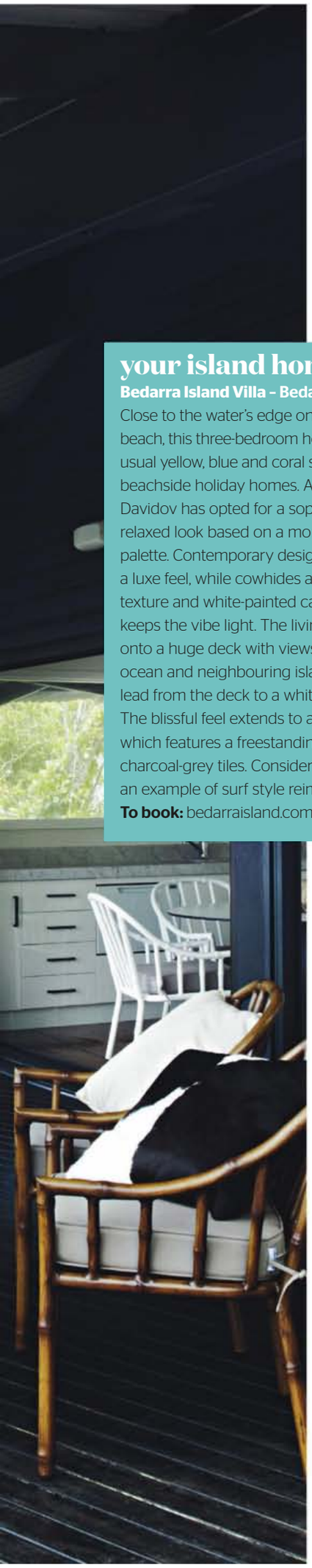


WINTER ESCAPES

# chic holiday homes

Say no to hibiscus bedspreads and driftwood on the walls – these retreats showcase true style and will be your home away from home WORDS **NIGEL BARTLETT**

PHOTOGRAPHY: (BEDARRA ISLAND VILLA) PRUE RUSCOE, (THE VILLAS OF BYRON) JESSIE PRINCE, (HOUSE BY THEM) A BEAR A DEER AND A FOX



## your island home

**Bedarra Island Villa – Bedarra Island, Qld**

Close to the water's edge on a palm-fringed beach, this three-bedroom house avoids the usual yellow, blue and coral shades of many beachside holiday homes. Architect Rob Davidov has opted for a sophisticated yet relaxed look based on a monochromatic palette. Contemporary design pieces create a luxe feel, while cowhides and timber add texture and white-painted cane furniture keeps the vibe light. The living area opens onto a huge deck with views across to the ocean and neighbouring islands, and steps lead from the deck to a white-sand beach. The blissful feel extends to a nearby studio, which features a freestanding bath and charcoal-grey tiles. Consider this place an example of surf style reimagined.
**To book:** bedarraisland.com.au.





## private sanctuary

**The Villas of Byron – Byron Bay, NSW**

Taliah Lowry recently redesigned these five ultra-private villas, going for a "tropical luxe" style to give a high-end yet casual atmosphere. She worked on the interiors, along with interior designer Kate Sacks. The pair chose linen-covered sofas from MCM House, black cane chairs from Lincoln Brooks and lights from Island Luxe in nearby Bangalow. Taliah loves the villas' airy feel, with little distinction between indoors and out. "The courtyard gardens are a complete extension of the home and are brought into every room," she says. "And I love the pitched ceilings. They create a wonderful sense of space and shelter if you catch a tropical-style downpour."
**To book:** thevillasofbyron.com.au.

## creative retreat

**House By Them – Bowral, NSW**

This three-bedroom weatherboard cottage is filled with contemporary art, furniture and design, with a look put together by owners Anna Byng and Ursula Armstrong. The couple run the shop Made By Others in Moss Vale and describe the cottage as "an extension of the store's philosophy of promoting the work of artists and designers". With the help of local interior design firm Luci.D Interiors (who also designed this colourful Tappeti rug, right), Anna and Ursula have created a home that's welcoming with a highly personal touch. Art, objects and soft furnishings are all made by independent designers, including the bedlinen, lighting and even the body care products. "Our favourite part of the house is the reading nook," says Anna. "It's a wonderful sunlit space to relax with a book or magazine."
**To book:** housebythem.com.au.



*The colour-filled House By Them in Bowral, NSW*



## change of eras

**Mason Street – Hawthorn, Melbourne**

You'd never know from the street that this grand four-bedroom property combines two different styles. The front part remains decidedly Victorian while the extension is out-and-out modern. "It was important to us that it still looked like a Victorian house from the front and that the extension was hidden from the street," says the owner, interior stylist Isabella Patterson. This house – with plush textures, tribal artwork and objects from Isabella's online store Home By Tribal – is designed to work well in every season. "For summer, the extension has sliding doors that recess into a cavity," she says. "And I love the raised fireplace, which keeps the home cosy in the cold."

**To book:** luxico.com.au/masonstmelbourne.





## high in the hills

**Cuyong Cottage – Katoomba, NSW**

Owner Julian Jones was careful to retain this home's period features when renovating the 1905 three-bedroom Federation cottage in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales. "I wanted to retain its character while giving the place a contemporary spin," he says. Julian added an extension for the bathrooms and turned an enclosed verandah into a galley-style kitchen. "I then converted the old kitchen with its large fireplace into a warm and cosy dining room (pictured left), which is now the heart of the home," he says. French doors lead to a large deck with a mountain outlook. "I love the view through the doors to the garden with the large surrounding trees," says Julian. "And sinking into the large bath is one of the best things to do after a day out."

**To book:** cuyongcottagekatoomba.com.au.

## style in the city

**New Farm – Qld**

Staying in the city centre needn't mean abandoning all hope of style and luxury at a reasonable price. This four-bedroom Colonial-style Queenslander in Brisbane is in a quiet, leafy street yet within walking distance of cafes, bars, theatres, shops and the river. The property is the work of owner Sandra Papas and her builder husband John. Together they've given what was once a very run-down house a fresh, contemporary update (pictured below left). They chose Italian Statuario marble in the kitchen and bathrooms, where floor-to-ceiling slate-grey curtains add to the luxury feel. Bluestone tiles in the living areas are offset by the warmth of a Jimmy Possum timber dining table that seats up to 12 people. "Much of the house is north-facing so it always feels like it's the perfect temperature," says Sandra. "It's also very private, considering its inner-city location."

**To book:** airbnb.com.au/rooms/5329921.

## pure & simple

**Wombarra Reef House – Wombarra, NSW**

White is the order of the day in this beachfront home on the New South Wales South Coast. The absence of any hint of colour creates a sense of absolute serenity and allows the captivating views beyond the full-width bi-folding doors and shaded deck to speak for themselves: palm trees, a two-level manicured lawn stepping down to the sands below and the Pacific Ocean stretching away into the distance. The all-white furnishings and accessories are complemented by pale timber highlights, in the form of lime-washed floors and pendant lights. It's a look that's easy and elegant. Wombarra Reef House sleeps six in the main house (in two king-sized bedrooms and two single bedrooms), with room for a further two in a nearby bunkhouse.

**To book:** contemporaryhotels.com.au or stayz.com.au.

## take flight

**The Seidler House – Southern Highlands, NSW**

Holiday homes don't come much more stunning than this. Designed by iconic architect Harry Seidler, the avant-garde house is built into natural rock formations and set within 150 hectares of natural bushland, jutting boldly over the edge of a rugged sandstone escarpment.

The award-winning four-bedroom home, which was completed in 2000, possesses a graceful and sculptural beauty, resembling

PHOTOGRAPHY: (NEW FARM) STUART MURRAY; (CUYONG COTTAGE) GUY BAILEY; (VINTAGE HOUSE DAYLESFORD) ARMELLE HABIB; (THE ATLANTIC) ALICIA TAYLOR; (QUAMBY HOME) CLINT & BETHANIE. STYLING: (VINTAGE HOUSE DAYLESFORD) JULIA GREEN

a bird's wing in flight over the landscape. Glass walls give guests the feeling of being at one with the surrounding beauty.

Internal white walls are offset by a variety of stone surfaces and the warmth of open fireplaces, while the furniture is elegantly modern including Eames plywood chairs grouped around a wooden dining table.
**To book:** stayz.com.au or contemporaryhotels.com.au.

## escape to the country

**Vintage House Daylesford – Daylesford, Vic**

Here's your chance to stay in a home that's beautiful enough to have been featured on the cover of *Inside Out*. Owner, interior designer Kali Cavanagh, has completely restored the 1860s two-bedroom miner's cottage, highlighting its original features and combining timber and metal in the form of collected antiques, vintage pieces and industrial items (pictured above right). A separate studio features a queen-sized bed and its own bathroom. Statement vintage elements include a powder-blue Chambers oven in the kitchen, sourced from a market in California; an antique 1800s cast-iron fireplace from France; and a Post Office table from London, dating from the 1700s. "I wanted to create a space that others could love and enjoy as much as I would," explains Kali. "I wanted each room to have the ability to be someone's 'favourite' room. Personally, I love having a bath in the bedroom and a glass of wine by the fire."
**To book:** vintagehousedaylesford.com.





*The cool and relaxed vibe of The Atlantic in Byron Bay, NSW*

## out on the farm

**Quamby Home – Hagley, Tas**

Experience life on a working farm in this beautifully renovated 1870s house, set in 127 hectares of English-style gardens and prime agricultural land, 29 kilometres from Launceston. Sleeping up to 10 people, it's the perfect getaway for an extended family (below). Lucy and Stewart Hosken own the property with close friends and designed the update themselves, opening for guests just before Christmas last year. "We wanted a space that's comfortable, which would be suitable for families to come down to Tassie and totally relax," says Lucy. "We wanted the home to be an authentic farm experience but with a boutique feel."
**To book:** quambyhome.com.au.



## getaway hotels

Of course, there are gorgeously designed hotels, should you want the full "someone else can make my bed" holiday experience

**QT Hotels – Sydney, Gold Coast, Port Douglas, Falls Creek, Canberra**

Looking for somewhere that's "*Mad Men* meets the Hamptons"? Or "nostalgic surf chic meets Miami swim catwalk"? Find it here.
**To book:** qthotels.com.au.

**Mona Pavilions – Hobart, Tas**

Stay at the Museum of Old and New Art's "high-tech, super-flashy dens on the River Derwent", each named after an Australian artist or architect.
**To book:** mona.net.au.

**The Atlantic – Byron Bay, NSW**

The beach is never far from your mind in this relaxed guesthouse with a hint of hippie chic.
**To book:** atlanticbyronbay.com.au.

**Emirates One&Only – Wolgan Valley, NSW**

Expect posh classic style with earthy tones and plush linens, in the heart of a 7000-acre conservation reserve.
**To book:** wolganvalley.com.

**Find these homes**

If it's an Airbnb, Stayz or Contemporary Hotels listing, visit the website at the end of each home then type in the home's name and/or location.

# SOUP'S ON!

WINTER NIGHTS ARE MADE FOR FILLING YOUR HOME WITH DELICIOUS AROMAS. THESE WARM AND HEARTY SOUPS ARE JUST THE THING TO FIGHT OFF THE CHILL

STYLING **JOSEPH GARDNER** FOOD STYLING **DAVID MORGAN** PHOTOGRAPHY **JEREMY SIMONS**





Smashing pumpkin soup with giant dukkah croutons

GLITTER CREDIT

## SMASHING PUMPKIN SOUP

**SERVES** 4 **PREPARATION TIME** 10 minutes
**COOKING TIME** 40 minutes

1 tbsp olive oil
1 brown onion, coarsely chopped
2 tsp ground cumin
1.2kg butternut pumpkin, peeled, seeded, coarsely chopped
1L (4 cups) good quality chicken or vegetable stock
Dollop of natural yoghurt
Ciabatta bread, extra virgin olive oil and dukkah for giant dukkah croutons (see recipe below), to serve

**1.** Heat olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Cook onion, stirring, for 5 minutes or until golden. Add cumin and cook, stirring for 1 minute or until aromatic.
**2.** Add pumpkin and stir to coat. Add stock. Simmer for 20 minutes or until the pumpkin is soft. Set aside to cool slightly. Use a stick blender to blend until smooth.
**3.** Ladle soup among serving bowls. Top with a dollop of natural yoghurt. Sprinkle with dukkah. Serve with giant dukkah croutons.

## GIANT DUKKAH CROUTONS

Tear a loaf of ciabatta into large pieces, drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with dukkah. Roast croutons in oven at 200°C for 10-15 minutes until golden and crisp.

## ALL-IN-ONE BEEF SOUP

**SERVES** 4 **PREPARATION TIME** 20 minutes
**COOKING TIME** 2 hours 15 minutes

1 tbsp olive oil
500g lean beef chuck, coarsely chopped
2 carrots, peeled, finely chopped
2 celery sticks, finely chopped
1 large brown onion, finely chopped
2 garlic cloves, crushed
2 tsp chopped fresh rosemary (and extra for garnishing)
500ml (2 cups) salt-reduced chicken stock
500ml (2 cups) water
80g (⅓ cup) pearl barley, rinsed
2 dried bay leaves
3 (about 400g) large truss tomatoes, finely chopped
300g sweet potato (kumara), peeled, cut into 1cm pieces

**1.** Heat half the oil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Stir in the beef for 2-3 minutes or until browned. Transfer to a plate.
**2.** Heat remaining oil over medium heat. Stir in the carrot, celery and onion for 8 minutes or until soft. Stir in garlic and rosemary for 1 minute or until aromatic. Return the beef to the pan.
**3.** Add stock, water, barley and bay leaves. Cover and bring to the boil. Reduce heat to low. Simmer, covered, skimming any scum that rises to the surface, for 1.5 hours. Add tomato and sweet potato. Simmer for 30 minutes or until beef is tender. Season with pepper.

# THIS HEARTY TAKE ON A RUSTIC MINESTRONE IS JUST THE TICKET FOR A LAZY, RAINY WEEKEND



ORIGINAL TASTE.COM.AU RECIPES: (ALL-IN-ONE BEEF SOUP) CHRISSY FREER. (SMASHING PUMPKIN SOUP) ALISON ADAMS. GIANT DUKKAH CROUTONS RECIPE: DAVID MORGAN



All-in-one beef soup



## ROAST BEEF FILLET IN SHIITAKE MUSHROOM AND RICE NOODLE BROTH

**SERVES** 4 **PREPARATION TIME** 15 minutes
**COOKING TIME** 35 minutes

4 coriander roots, scrubbed
¼ cup chopped fresh coriander stems
3 garlic cloves, peeled
1 small fresh red chilli, coarsely chopped
500g-piece beef fillet
80ml (⅓ cup) peanut oil
200g shiitake mushrooms, thinly sliced
1L (4 cups) good quality beef stock
2 tbsp fish sauce
60ml (¼ cup) fresh lime juice
2 bunches baby pak choy, ends trimmed, washed, halved lengthways
125g rice noodles
½ cup fresh Thai basil leaves
½ cup fresh coriander leaves
Extra small fresh red chillies (optional), finely sliced, to serve

**1.** Place the coriander roots, coriander stems, garlic and chilli in a mortar and use a pestle to gently pound until a smooth paste forms. (Alternatively, place in a small food processor and process until smooth.) Transfer to a bowl. Cover with plastic wrap and place in the fridge to develop the flavours.
**2.** Meanwhile, preheat oven to 220°C. Use unwaxed white kitchen string to tie the beef at 4cm intervals. Place in a roasting pan. Drizzle over half the oil. Season with salt and pepper. Roast in oven for 25 minutes for medium rare or until cooked to your liking. Cover with foil and set aside for 10 minutes to rest.
**3.** Heat the remaining oil in a wok or large deep frying pan over medium-high heat. Add the coriander mixture and stir-fry for 2 minutes or until aromatic. Add the mushroom and stir-fry for 2 minutes. Add the stock and bring to a simmer. Cook for 2 minutes. Add the fish sauce, lime juice and pak choy, and simmer for 3 minutes or until the pak choy is tender.
**4.** Place the noodles in a heat-proof bowl and cover with boiling water. Set aside for 1 minute or until tender. Drain. Divide among serving bowls. Thinly slice the beef across the grain. Pour the mushroom mixture over the noodles. Top with the beef. Sprinkle with Thai basil and coriander leaves. Serve with extra chilli, if desired.

**TABLE SETTING** Iittala 'Sarpaneva' **casserole**, $525, Top3 By Design, top3.com.au. 'Etchings' **bowl**, $20, Marmoset Found, marmosetfound.com.au. 'Noodle' **bowl**, $78, Mud Australia, mudaustralia.com. 'Painted Stripes' **napkin**, $30, Koskela, koskela.com.au. 'Stockholm' dining **table**, $1495, Matt Blatt, mattblatt.com.au. 'Stol' **side chair**, from $260, Thonet, thonet.com.au. **SMASHING PUMPKIN SOUP Bowl and napkin**, as before. 'Nolan' **spoon**, $199/24-piece set, Country Road, countryroad.com.au. **ACCESSORIES** 'Etchings' **bowl**, $74, Marmoset Found, as before. Society Limonta 'Chambray' **napkin**, $40, Ondene, ondene.com.au. 'Nolan' **cutlery**, $199/24-piece set, Country Road, as before. 'Brush Stroke' **condiment dish**, $20, and 'Black Tie' **condiment dishes**, from $20 each, Koskela, as before. **ALL-IN-ONE BEEF SOUP Teacups**, $90/set (saucers not shown), Mud Australia, as before. Menu slate **plate/trivet**, $39, Eighteen Ten, (02) 9362 4890. Normann Copenhagen 'Craft' **mortar and pestle**, $150, BYMR, 1300 527 277.
**THIS PAGE** '2 Cup' **teapot**, $204, Mud Australia, as before. 'Basix' **napkin**, $22, Hale Mercantile Co., halemercantileco.com. 'Japanese Black' **dish**, $40, Koskela, as before. **OPPOSITE** 'Ink Series Japan' **bowl**, $149, Slip Ceramics, jeremysimons.com.au/slipceramics-gallery. **Napkin**, as before.

ORIGINAL TASTE.COM.AU RECIPE: CYNTHIA BLACK

**For more recipes, visit *taste.com.au*.**



Roast beef fillet in shiitake
mushroom and rice noodle broth




## HI JACK

Find raspberry and pistachio praline soft serve and more goodies at Matt Wilkinson's Melbourne canteen, Jack Horner. There's an attached store and bottle shop, too. Visit jackhorner.net.

**FOOD NEWS**

# wine & dine

Designer bars and restaurants to discover, plus hot new products EDITED BY **LEE TRAN LAM**






## special sauce

You'll want fries with *The Huxtaburger Book* – and you can master making them, plus bun-and-patty combos the Melbourne burger joint is known for, thanks to this title ($49.95, Hardie Grant Books).

**TOP ESTATE Adelaide's Magill Estate Restaurant just got bigger – its new sibling is the casual spin-off, Magill Estate Kitchen. Visit penfolds.com.**

## 3 GREAT FINDS



**'Watercolour Tree' side plate**, $25, Mountain Clay, mountainclay.etsy.com.



**'Fried Egg' brekky plate**, $35, Takeawei, takeawei.com.



**'Splash' tableware**, from $25 each, White Finches, whitefinches.net.

## rolling high

Waterman's Lobster Co offers local updates on the classic American lobster roll – the Sydney eatery even has a vegetarian option with egg, nori, kombu and crispy shallot. Head to 29 Orwell Street, Potts Point.



## Q+A WITH...



### Naomi Hart

Author and co-owner of Hartsyard

**Your husband Gregory (pictured) is Hartsyard's head chef. Do you often cook at home?** I generally have to cook with one child on my hip and the other wrapped around my leg. But, on the nights he's home, he tends to cook. He is always complimentary of my culinary skills, but I'm OK with underachieving in this department. **Was there anything that was hard to translate into book form?** The photo shoot was challenging – Gregory did it before service. The lemon tart slid off its base because he didn't let it set long enough before the photo. **You have two daughters. Is there a recipe from the book that's fun to make with kids?** Q's 'chic-chop' cookies make it into the dessert section! We use an ever-changing recipe according to what we find in the cupboard (no eggs, use yoghurt; no flour, use custard powder; etc).

*Fried Chicken & Friends: The Hartsyard Family Cookbook* ($49.99, Murdoch Books)

**Brisbane's Honor cafe has a Goldilocks-inspired breakfast. See more of the menu at *honorfood.com*.**

PHOTOGRAPHY: (JACK HORNER) HILARY WALKER, (HUXTABURGER BOOK) CHRIS MIDDLETON, (HUXTABURGER BOOK SPREAD) SAM McADAM-COOPER, (PORTRAIT) JOHN LAURIE. STYLING (HUXTABURGER BOOK) DEB KALOPER

# stockists

## Here are all the numbers and websites you need to get shopping! Don't be misled by suppliers listing Sydney or Melbourne phone numbers – they are often head offices or distributors who can find a retailer in your area

### a-c

**Ahoy Trader** (02) 6680 8216, ahoytrader.com. **Al+Em** alandem.com.au. **Aquabumps** (02) 9130 7788, aquabumps.com. **Artedomus** artedomus.com. **Blink Designs** blinkdesigns.com.au. **Chinaclay** 0427 904 407, chinaclay.myshopify.com. **Cult** cultdesign.com.au.

### d-f

**Design Mode International** (02) 9998 8200, designmode.com.au. **Designstuff** (03) 9592 2960, designstuff.com.au. **Dulux** 132 525, dulux. com.au. **eBay** ebay.com.au. **Euroluce** euroluce.com.au. **Ferm Living** fermliving.com. **Floral + Hardie** floralandhardie.com. **Fred International** (02) 9310 3263, fredishere.com.

### g-i

**Hale Mercantile Co.** (03) 9939 1267, halemercantileco.com. **Hay** hay.dk. **Hub Furniture** (03) 9652 1222, hubfurniture.com.au. **IKEA** (02) 8020 6641, ikea.com.au.

### j-n

**Jardan** (03) 8581 4988, jardan.com.au. **Mighty Ape** mightyape.com.au. **Muurametalot** muurametalot.fi. **Norsu Interiors** norsu.com.au.

### o-s

**Pappa Sven** pappasven.com.au. **Peter's Of Kensington** petersofkensington.com.au. **Planet** (02) 9211 5959, planetfurniture.com.au. **Porter's Paints** porterspaints.com.

### t-z

**The Design Hunter** (02) 9369 3322, thedesignhunter.com.au. **The Salvation Army** salvos.org.au. **Thonet** 1800 800 777, thonet.com.au. **Tom Dixon** tomdixon.net. **Top3 By Design** top3.com.au. **Urbaani Homewares** urbaani.com.au. **Walter Knoll** (08) 8182 3925, walterknoll.com.au. **Whitco** whitco.com.au.



An interesting blend of tactile materials takes this Sydney home's pale palette to a new level. Turn to page 80 for a further look.

PHOTOGRAPHY: FELIX FOREST. STYLING: CLAIRE DELMAR

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**Fisher & Paykel** fisherpaykel.com/au.
**Harvey Norman** harveynorman.com.au.
**Ilve** ilve.com.au.
**International Floor Coverings** interfloors.com.au.
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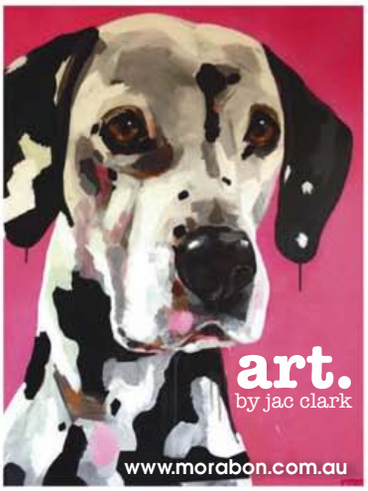
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# Ask Megsy

## Our Agony Aunt Meg Mason dishes out somewhat questionable style and decorating advice to would-be DIY renovators

***We've found a buyer for our beloved apartment, which we're only selling because of the neighbours downstairs who've basically ruined our lives with their loud music and horrible dogs. But I'm quite an honest person, and I'm worried that it's lying not to warn the buyer about them.*** *Evelyn, Greenwich, NSW*

**The world can** be a difficult place for those of us whose moral compass never takes a day off, Evelyn. As a fellow truth-teller who can't be arm-twisted into a falsehood, even when it's a bride asking directly what I think of her frock, I understand your torment. But here's what I learned during the world's most awkward buffet reception – the truth isn't always in the listener's best interest.

Did my sister need to know that, from behind, the visual effect of that tulle back panel was of a Christmas ham being carried home in a string shopper? Or should I have made a one-off exception to my otherwise ironclad honesty-is-the-best-policy policy, for her sake?

'The latter' was the G-rated essence of my sister's position on it, and I think another one-off exemption is called for now. Because like marriage, house-buying is a huge and dreadful commitment that you can't get out of. For at least two years. And rarely is anyone about to take that sort of plunge grateful for the gift of stone-cold fact.

In fact, think about it Evs, the whole business of house-buying hinges on the most fearful measure of self-delusion. Yes, we tell ourselves, $900k is an absolutely reasonable amount to pay for a structure made out of $76 worth of bricks! Yes, looking over a municipal treatment station does count as "water views" and no, the whiff I'm going to get off Pond No.7 in a strong southerly will not be a problem to me long-term! Also, I can definitely afford these repayments because I do not need to eat and electricity is for the soft!

You're not the worst wool-puller in the picture, Evelyn, if you're one at all. Your buyer is the one doing a real number on herself, sitting in her parked car by the 'sold' sign, and repeating like a mantra "I quite like some of Slipknot's earlier stuff! Apparently Brazilian mastiffs are a gentle breed as long as you don't look at them wrong!"

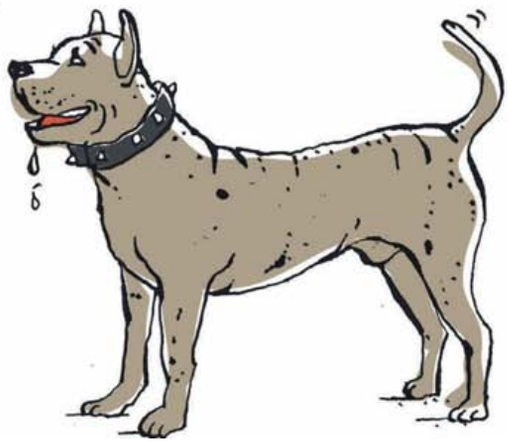
It's helping her build courage, as will – one day – streaking through the common areas with a farmer's market salami held over her head so the dogs won't take it or learning to sleep while the bass line of a death metal anthem rattles her bedside water glass.

You can't protect her, and it's not your job. Is it? Or is it? Because my sister is bringing the new baby around later and if she asks outright whether my niece calls to mind a furrier Seth Rogen, I really need this all to be true.



***My boyfriend likes to read in bed until very late, and I'm looking for a bedside lamp that won't keep me awake.***
*Angie, Seddon, Vic*

And not a new boyfriend?! You're a better woman than most.



**revive the... chest freezer** A forgotten *objet* ripe for resurgence

There's meat in the freezer! No, the other freezer, the one in the garage that requires an ice axe and decent set of crampons to excavate a tray of frost-bitten chops from its depths whenever extra guests turn up for tea.

**Stay tuned for more of Meg's invaluable renovating tips in our next issue.**

ILLUSTRATION: KAT CHADWICK


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